Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

THE WATCHTOWER

Question: Do you think that the world would be a better place if everyone lived by this principle?

Scripture: **Heb 13:18**

Offer: The Bible encourages us to be honest in all things. So honesty touches every aspect of our life. That's the topic of this issue of *The Watchtower.*

THE WATCHTOWER (back page)

Question: I'd like to hear your opinion on this question. [Read the first question.] Some people believe that after we die we live on in another form, while others feel that death is the end of everything. What do you believe?

Scripture: **Ec 9:5**

Offer: This article explains more about what the Bible says on this topic. Why not read it over? Then we can discuss this at another time.

GOOD NEWS FROM GOD!

Offer: I stopped by to tell you about our free Bible study course. This brochure shows where in your Bible you can find answers to important questions.

Question: Have you ever read the Bible? Let me show you how easy the lessons are in this brochure. [Consider question 1 in lesson 2.]

Scripture: **Re 4:11**

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

Sisters using the *Good News* brochure in Madagascar

- Song 114 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"True Worship Requires Hard Work":** (10 min.)

  2Ch 29:10-17—Hezekiah restores true worship with determination

  2Ch 30:5, 6, 10-12—Hezekiah invites all righthearted ones to assemble for worship

  2Ch 32:25, 26—Hezekiah corrects his haughtiness with humility (*w05* 10/15 25 ¶20)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  2Ch 29:11—How did Hezekiah set a good example regarding priorities? (*w13* 11/15 17 ¶6-7)

  2Ch 32:7, 8—What is the most practical step we can take to prepare for future difficulties? (*w13* 11/15 20 ¶17)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** 2Ch 31:1-10 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the first *Sample Watchtower Presentation* video, and then discuss the highlights. Emphasize how the publisher laid the groundwork for a return visit. Do the same for the second sample *Watchtower* presentation and then for the *Good News* brochure. Refer to "How to Conduct a Study Using the *Good News* Brochure." Encourage publishers to build their own presentations.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 127
- **"Our Privilege to Build and Maintain Places of True Worship":** (15 min.) Discussion. Invite those who have participated in Kingdom Hall construction to comment on the joy they have experienced. Briefly interview the brother who coordinates cleaning and maintenance of the Kingdom Hall regarding the local congregation's arrangements.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 6 ¶1-14 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 142 and Prayer
  Reminder: Please play the music through once, and then the congregation should sing the new song.

Our Privilege to Build and Maintain Places of True Worship

Constructing Israel's temple required much work and expense. However, the Israelites supported the project with zeal. (1Ch 29:2-9; 2Ch 6:7, 8) After the temple was completed, the maintenance done by the Israelites reflected their spirituality or lack thereof. (2Ki 22:3-6; 2Ch 28:24; 29:3) Today, Christians put much time and effort into building, cleaning, and maintaining Kingdom Halls and Assembly Halls. However, working along with Jehovah in this way is a grand privilege and is part of our sacred service.—Ps 127:1; Re 7:15.

WE CAN HAVE A SHARE BY . . .

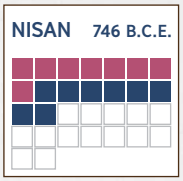
- Tidying up after every meeting. If circumstances limit you, kindly pick up around your seat.
- Participating in the regular cleaning and maintenance of the Kingdom Hall. Many hands make the work joyful and light.—*lv* 92-93 ¶18.
- Giving financial support. Even a contribution of 'two coins of little value' given from the heart pleases Jehovah.—Mr 12:41-44.
- Volunteering to help build and renovate theocratic facilities if your circumstances allow. Construction experience is not a requirement to participate.

2 CHRONICLES 29-32 | True Worship Requires Hard Work

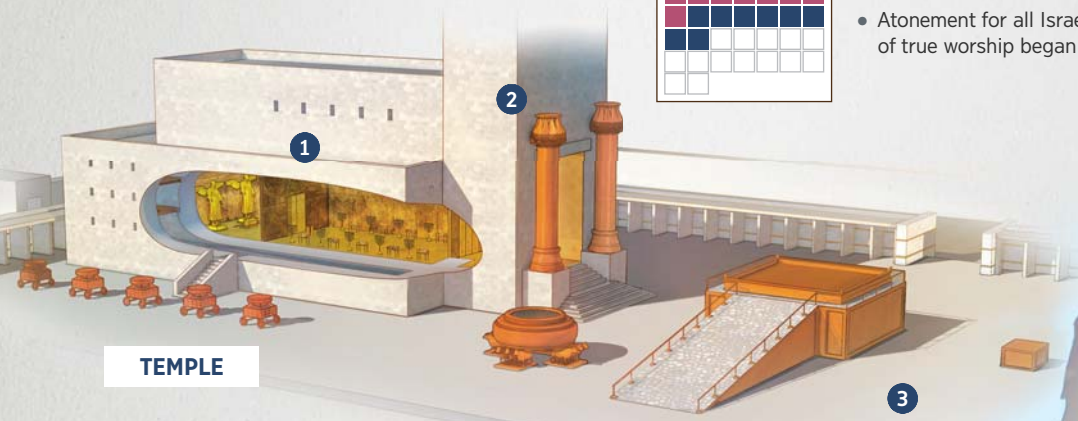
Hezekiah's Reign 746-716 B.C.E.

740 B.C.E. **Fall of Samaria**

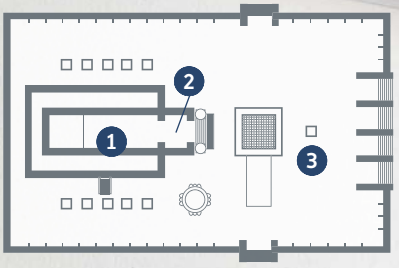
29:10-17 **Hezekiah restores true worship with determination**



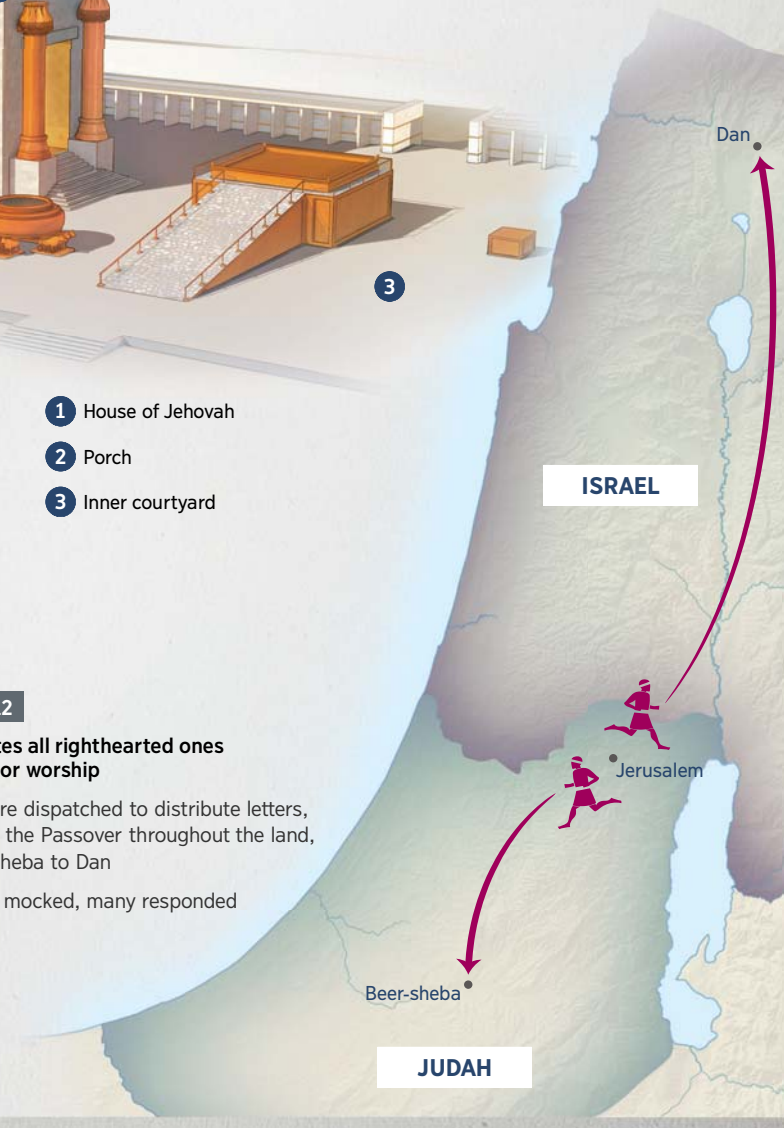
- Days 1-8: Cleansed inner courtyard
- Days 9-16: Cleansed Jehovah's house
- Atonement for all Israel and restoration of true worship began



TEMPLE



1. House of Jehovah
2. Porch
3. Inner courtyard



30:5, 6, 10-12

Hezekiah invites all righthearted ones to assemble for worship

- Couriers were dispatched to distribute letters, announcing the Passover throughout the land, from Beer-sheba to Dan
- While some mocked, many responded favorably

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- Song 35 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Values Genuine Repentance":** (10 min.)

  2Ch 33:2-9, 12-16—On the basis of genuine repentance, Manasseh was shown mercy (*w05* 12/1 21 ¶5)

  2Ch 34:18, 30, 33—Reading the Bible and meditating on it can affect us profoundly (*w05* 12/1 21 ¶10)

  2Ch 36:15-17—Jehovah's compassion and patience must not be taken for granted (*w05* 12/1 21 ¶7)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  2Ch 33:11—What prophecy was fulfilled when Manasseh was taken to Babylon? (*it*-1 62 ¶2)

  2Ch 34:1-3—What encouragement can we draw from Josiah's example? (*w05* 12/1 21 ¶6)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** 2Ch 34:22-33 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Present the cover subject of the current *Watchtower.* Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who responded well to the presentation that featured the cover article of the current *Watchtower.* Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Demonstrate a Bible study. (*bh* 9-10 ¶6-7)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 77
- **Repentance Makes a Difference:** (10 min.) Talk by an elder. (*w06* 11/15 27-28 ¶7-9)
- **Forgive Freely:** (5 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Become Jehovah's Friend—Forgive Freely.* (Go to jw.org, and look under BIBLE TEACHINGS > CHILDREN.) Afterward, invite comments from children on the lessons they learned.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 6 ¶15-23, box on p. 57, review on p. 58 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 6 and Prayer

2 CHRONICLES 33-36 | Jehovah Values Genuine Repentance

MANASSEH

REIGN BEFORE CAPTURE

- Built altars to false gods
- Offered own sons as sacrifices
- Shed innocent blood
- Promoted spiritistic practices throughout the nation

REIGN AFTER RELEASE

- Humbled himself greatly
- Prayed to Jehovah; offered sacrifices
- Removed altars to false gods
- Urged nation to serve Jehovah

Jehovah allowed him to be captured by Assyria and taken to Babylon in fetters

JOSIAH

THROUGHOUT REIGN

- Searched for Jehovah
- Cleansed Judah and Jerusalem
- Repaired the house of Jehovah; found the book of the Law

- Song 85 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Keeps His Promises":** (10 min.) [Play the video entitled *Introduction to Ezra.*]

  Ezr 3:1-6—Jehovah's prophecies never fail (*w06* 1/15 19 ¶2)
  Ezr 5:1-7—Jehovah can maneuver matters for the success of his people (*w06* 1/15 19 ¶4; *w86* 1/15 9 ¶2; *w86* 2/1 29 box)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ezr 1:3-6—Why were the Israelites who did not volunteer to return to Jerusalem not necessarily weak in faith? (*w06* 1/15 17 ¶5; 19 ¶1)

  Ezr 4:1-3—Why was an offer of help rejected? (*w06* 1/15 19 ¶3)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Ezr 3:10–4:7 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

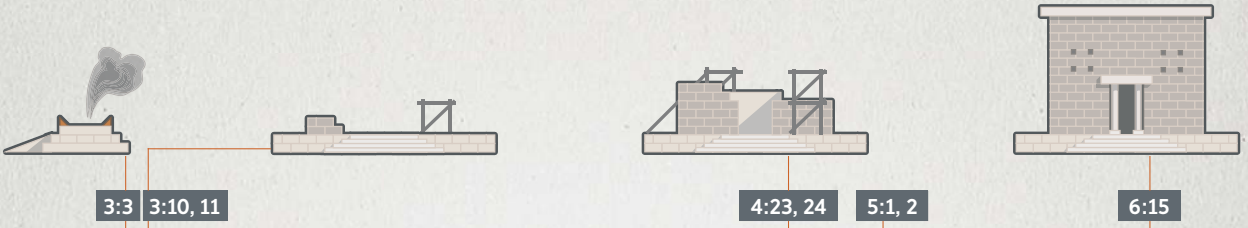
- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Present the last article of the current *Watchtower.* Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who responded well to the presentation that featured the last article of the current *Watchtower.* Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Demonstrate a Bible study. (*bh* 20-21 ¶6-8)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 40
- **"All These Other Things Will Be Added to You":** (5 min.) Talk based on Matthew 6:33 and Luke 12: 22-24. Invite publishers to relate experiences in which Jehovah fulfilled his promise to care for their material needs when they put the Kingdom first.
- **Your Speech—"'Yes' and yet 'No'"?:** (10 min.) Discussion. (*w14* 3/15 30-32)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 7 ¶1-14 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 41 and Prayer

EZRA 1-5 | Jehovah Keeps His Promises

Jehovah promised a restoration of true worship at the temple in Jerusalem. But after the exiles returned from Babylon, there were numerous obstacles, including a royal decree to halt construction. Many feared that the work would never be completed.



- Song 10 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Wants Willing Servants":** (10 min.)

  Ezr 7:10—Ezra prepared his heart

  Ezr 7:12-28—Ezra made preparations to return to Jerusalem

  Ezr 8:21-23—Ezra trusted in Jehovah to protect His servants

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ezr 9:1, 2—How serious a threat was intermarriage with "the peoples of the lands"? (*w06* 1/15 20 ¶1)

  Ezr 10:3—Why were the children sent away along with the wives? (*w06* 1/15 20 ¶2)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Ezr 7:18-28 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Present the *Good News* brochure, and discuss lesson 8, question 1, paragraph 1. Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who accepted the *Good News* brochure. Discuss lesson 8, question 1, paragraph 2. Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Demonstrate a Bible study, using the *Good News* brochure, lesson 8, question 2.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 138
- **"Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Laying the Groundwork for a Return Visit":** (7 min.) Discussion. Demonstrate the main points by playing the *January Skills* video, which shows publishers laying the groundwork for a return visit after placing *The Watchtower* and after placing the *Good News* brochure.
- **Local needs:** (8 min.)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 7 ¶15-27, review on p. 66 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 120 and Prayer

IMPROVING OUR SKILLS IN THE MINISTRY

Laying the Groundwork for a Return Visit

WHY IMPORTANT:

We want to water the seeds of truth that we plant. (1Co 3:6) When we find someone who shows interest, it is good to leave a question that we can discuss when we return. This will build his anticipation and simplify our preparation for the return visit. When we return, we can tell him that we are there to answer the question we raised the last time we visited.

HOW TO DO IT:

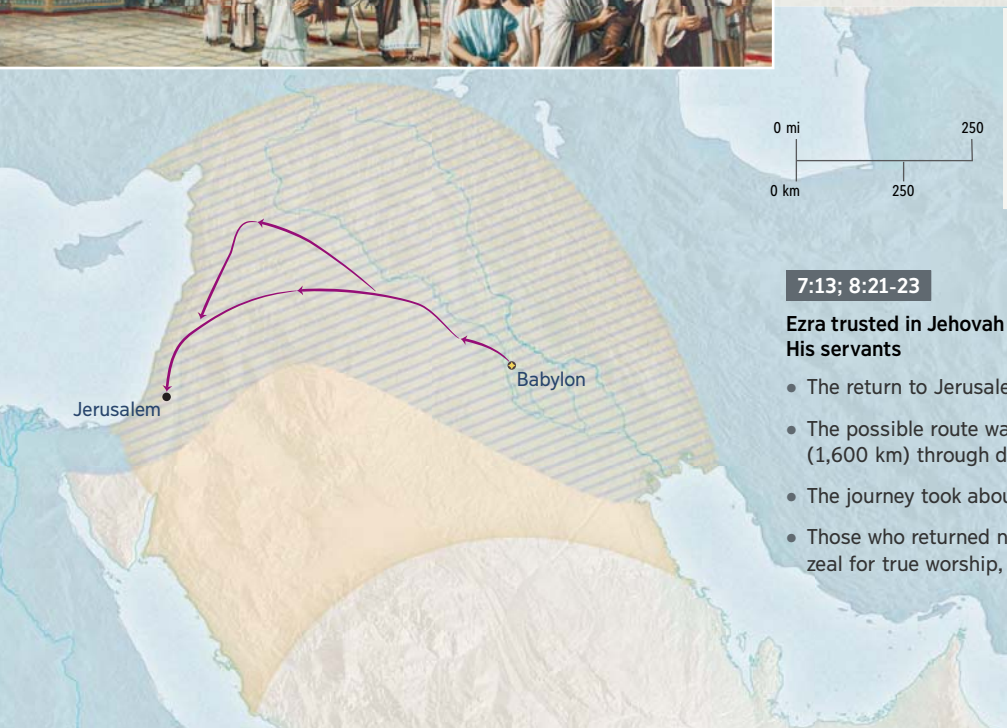
- When preparing your house-to-house presentation, include a follow-up question to be answered on the next visit. It could be something that is answered in the literature you are offering. Or it could be a question that is answered in one of our study publications that you plan to introduce when you return.
- When concluding your conversation with someone who shows interest, let him know of your desire to talk to him again and then share the follow-up question you prepared. Obtain contact information if possible.
- If you tell him that you will return at a specific time, keep your appointment. —Mt 5:37.

EZRA 6-10 | Jehovah Wants Willing Servants

7:6, 22; 8:26, 27

Ezra made preparations to return to Jerusalem

- Ezra receives permission from King Artaxerxes to return to Jerusalem to advance worship of Jehovah there
- The king grants Ezra "everything he requested" for Jehovah's house—gold, silver, wheat, wine, oil, and salt, all worth well over $100,000,000 (U.S.) at modern values

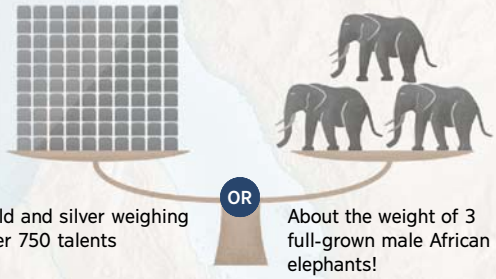


7:13; 8:21-23

Ezra trusted in Jehovah to protect His servants

- The return to Jerusalem would be difficult
- The possible route was nearly 1,000 miles (1,600 km) through dangerous territory
- The journey took about 4 months
- Those who returned needed strong faith, zeal for true worship, and courage

EZRA TRAVELED WITH . . .



Gold and silver weighing over 750 talents

About the weight of 3 full-grown male African elephants!

CHALLENGES FACED BY RETURNEES . . .

Marauder bands, desert terrain, dangerous wildlife

How to Conduct a Study Using the *Good News* Brochure

1. Read the numbered question in bold print to help the householder focus on the main point.

2. Read the paragraph that follows.

3. Read the italicized scriptures, and use tactful questions to help the householder see how the scriptures answer the numbered question.

4. If there is another paragraph under the question, repeat steps 2 and 3. If there is a video on jw.org that corresponds with the numbered question, play it at some point during your discussion.

5. To make sure that the householder understands the main point, ask him to answer the numbered question.

2 Who Is God?

1. Why should we worship God?

The true God is the Creator of all things. He had no beginning and will never have an end. (Psalm 90:2) He is the Source of the good news found in the Bible. (1 Timothy 1:11) Since God gave us life, we should worship only him. *Read Revelation 4:11.*

2. What is God like?

No human has ever seen God because he is a Spirit, which means that he is a higher form of life than the physical creatures who live on earth. (John 1:18; 4:24) Nevertheless, we can discern God's personality from the things he has made. For instance, the variety of fruits and flowers tells us of his love and wisdom. The size of the universe tells us of his power. *Read Romans 1:20.*

We can learn even more about God's personality by reading the Bible. For example, it tells us what God likes and what he does not like, how he treats people, and how he reacts in different situations. *Read Psalm 103:7-10.*

3. Does God have a name?

Jesus said: "Our Father in the heavens, let your *name* be sanctified." (Matthew 6:9) Although God has many titles, he has only one name. In each language, it is pronounced differently. In English it is usually pronounced "Jehovah." But some people pronounce it "Yahweh." *Read Psalm 83:18.*

God's name has been taken out of many Bibles and replaced with the titles Lord or God. But when the Bible was written, it contained God's name some 7,000 times.

4

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Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

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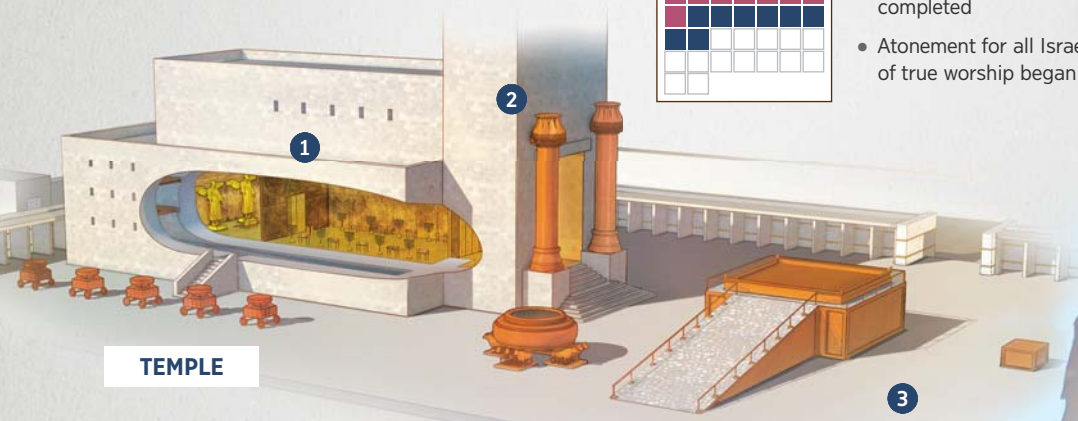

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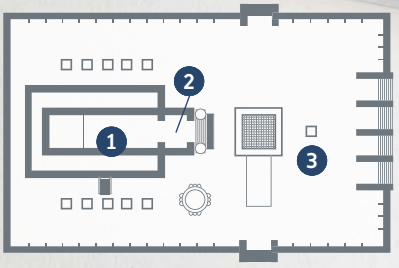

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ISRAEL

Dan

Jerusalem

Beer-sheba

JUDAH

30:5, 6, 10-12

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- Removed altars to false gods
- Urged nation to serve Jehovah

Jehovah allowed him to be captured by Assyria and taken to Babylon in fetters

JOSIAH

THROUGHOUT REIGN

- Searched for Jehovah
- Cleansed Judah and Jerusalem
- Repaired the house of Jehovah; found the book of the Law

- Song 85 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Keeps His Promises":** (10 min.) [Play the video entitled *Introduction to Ezra.*]

  Ezr 3:1-6—Jehovah's prophecies never fail (*w06* 1/15 19 ¶2)
  Ezr 5:1-7—Jehovah can maneuver matters for the success of his people (*w06* 1/15 19 ¶4; *w86* 1/15 9 ¶2; *w86* 2/1 29 box)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ezr 1:3-6—Why were the Israelites who did not volunteer to return to Jerusalem not necessarily weak in faith? (*w06* 1/15 17 ¶5; 19 ¶1)

  Ezr 4:1-3—Why was an offer of help rejected? (*w06* 1/15 19 ¶3)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Ezr 3:10–4:7 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

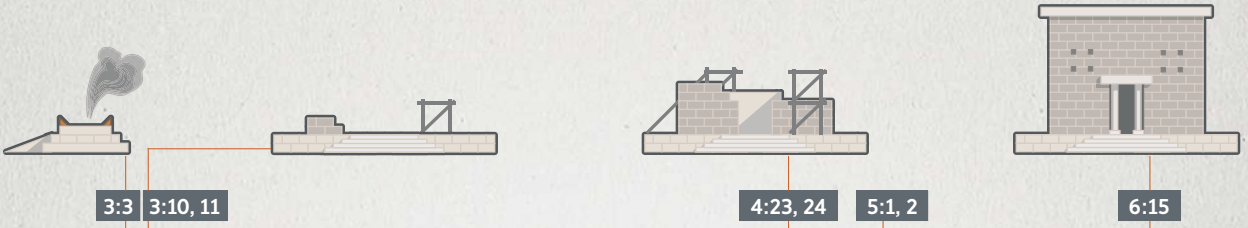
- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Present the last article of the current *Watchtower.* Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who responded well to the presentation that featured the last article of the current *Watchtower.* Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Demonstrate a Bible study. (*bh* 20-21 ¶6-8)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 40
- **"All These Other Things Will Be Added to You":** (5 min.) Talk based on Matthew 6:33 and Luke 12: 22-24. Invite publishers to relate experiences in which Jehovah fulfilled his promise to care for their material needs when they put the Kingdom first.
- **Your Speech—"'Yes' and yet 'No'"?:** (10 min.) Discussion. (*w14* 3/15 30-32)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 7 ¶1-14 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 41 and Prayer

EZRA 1-5 | Jehovah Keeps His Promises

Jehovah promised a restoration of true worship at the temple in Jerusalem. But after the exiles returned from Babylon, there were numerous obstacles, including a royal decree to halt construction. Many feared that the work would never be completed.



- Song 10 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Wants Willing Servants":** (10 min.)

  Ezr 7:10—Ezra prepared his heart

  Ezr 7:12-28—Ezra made preparations to return to Jerusalem

  Ezr 8:21-23—Ezra trusted in Jehovah to protect His servants

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ezr 9:1, 2—How serious a threat was intermarriage with "the peoples of the lands"? (*w06* 1/15 20 ¶1)

  Ezr 10:3—Why were the children sent away along with the wives? (*w06* 1/15 20 ¶2)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Ezr 7:18-28 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Present the *Good News* brochure, and discuss lesson 8, question 1, paragraph 1. Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who accepted the *Good News* brochure. Discuss lesson 8, question 1, paragraph 2. Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Demonstrate a Bible study, using the *Good News* brochure, lesson 8, question 2.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 138
- **"Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Laying the Groundwork for a Return Visit":** (7 min.) Discussion. Demonstrate the main points by playing the *January Skills* video, which shows publishers laying the groundwork for a return visit after placing *The Watchtower* and after placing the *Good News* brochure.
- **Local needs:** (8 min.)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 7 ¶15-27, review on p. 66 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 120 and Prayer

IMPROVING OUR SKILLS IN THE MINISTRY

Laying the Groundwork for a Return Visit

WHY IMPORTANT:

We want to water the seeds of truth that we plant. (1Co 3:6) When we find someone who shows interest, it is good to leave a question that we can discuss when we return. This will build his anticipation and simplify our preparation for the return visit. When we return, we can tell him that we are there to answer the question we raised the last time we visited.

HOW TO DO IT:

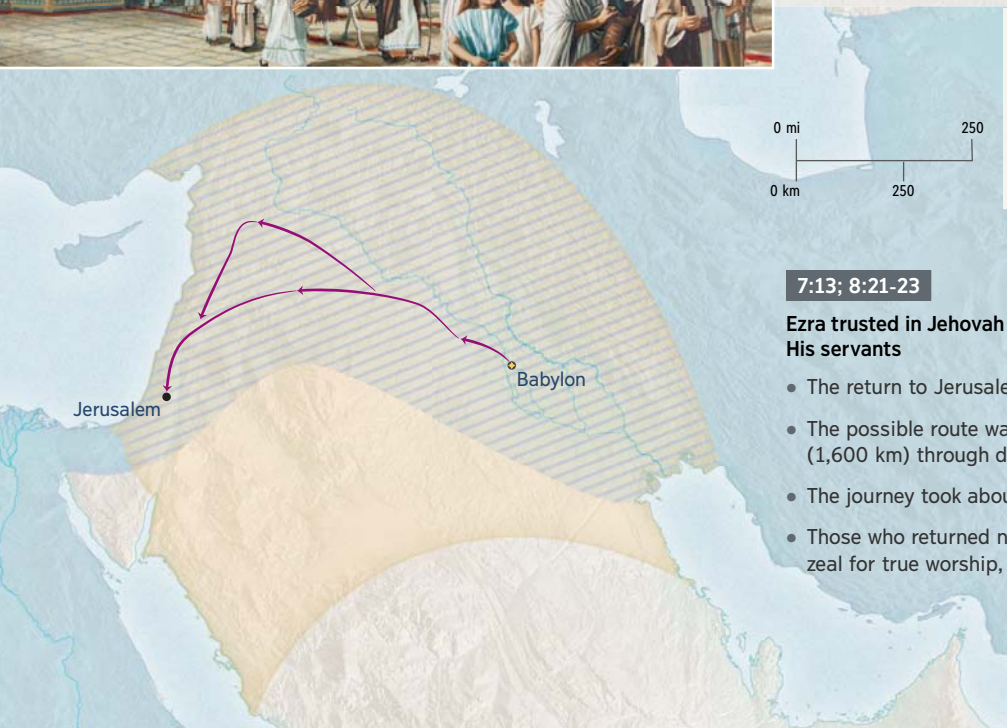
- When preparing your house-to-house presentation, include a follow-up question to be answered on the next visit. It could be something that is answered in the literature you are offering. Or it could be a question that is answered in one of our study publications that you plan to introduce when you return.
- When concluding your conversation with someone who shows interest, let him know of your desire to talk to him again and then share the follow-up question you prepared. Obtain contact information if possible.
- If you tell him that you will return at a specific time, keep your appointment. —Mt 5:37.

EZRA 6-10 | Jehovah Wants Willing Servants

7:6, 22; 8:26, 27

Ezra made preparations to return to Jerusalem

- Ezra receives permission from King Artaxerxes to return to Jerusalem to advance worship of Jehovah there
- The king grants Ezra "everything he requested" for Jehovah's house—gold, silver, wheat, wine, oil, and salt, all worth well over $100,000,000 (U.S.) at modern values

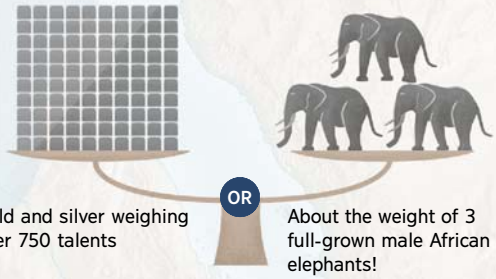


7:13; 8:21-23

Ezra trusted in Jehovah to protect His servants

- The return to Jerusalem would be difficult
- The possible route was nearly 1,000 miles (1,600 km) through dangerous territory
- The journey took about 4 months
- Those who returned needed strong faith, zeal for true worship, and courage

EZRA TRAVELED WITH . . .



Gold and silver weighing over 750 talents

About the weight of 3 full-grown male African elephants!

CHALLENGES FACED BY RETURNEES . . .

Marauder bands, desert terrain, dangerous wildlife

How to Conduct a Study Using the *Good News* Brochure

1. Read the numbered question in bold print to help the householder focus on the main point.

2. Read the paragraph that follows.

3. Read the italicized scriptures, and use tactful questions to help the householder see how the scriptures answer the numbered question.

4. If there is another paragraph under the question, repeat steps 2 and 3. If there is a video on jw.org that corresponds with the numbered question, play it at some point during your discussion.

5. To make sure that the householder understands the main point, ask him to answer the numbered question.

2 Who Is God?

1. Why should we worship God?

The true God is the Creator of all things. He had no beginning and will never have an end. (Psalm 90:2) He is the Source of the good news found in the Bible. (1 Timothy 1:11) Since God gave us life, we should worship only him. *Read Revelation 4:11.*

2. What is God like?

No human has ever seen God because he is a Spirit, which means that he is a higher form of life than the physical creatures who live on earth. (John 1:18; 4:24) Nevertheless, we can discern God's personality from the things he has made. For instance, the variety of fruits and flowers tells us of his love and wisdom. The size of the universe tells us of his power. *Read Romans 1:20.*

We can learn even more about God's personality by reading the Bible. For example, it tells us what God likes and what he does not like, how he treats people, and how he reacts in different situations. *Read Psalm 103:7-10.*

3. Does God have a name?

Jesus said: "Our Father in the heavens, let your *name* be sanctified." (Matthew 6:9) Although God has many titles, he has only one name. In each language, it is pronounced differently. In English it is usually pronounced "Jehovah." But some people pronounce it "Yahweh." *Read Psalm 83:18.*

God's name has been taken out of many Bibles and replaced with the titles Lord or God. But when the Bible was written, it contained God's name some 7,000 times.

4

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Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

AWAKE!

Question: Here is your copy of the latest *Awake!* Notice the question here on page 2. May I ask your opinion?

Scripture: **Pr 24:10**

Offer: This article discusses additional principles along this line.

AWAKE!

Question: Would you agree that it's important to choose the right kind of friends?

Scripture: **Pr 13:20**

Offer: This issue of *Awake!* has some practical information about how to make good friends. [Highlight the article on pages 10-11.]

LISTEN TO GOD

Question: Would you like to live in a world that looks like this? [Show pages 2-3, and allow for response.]

Scripture: **Jer 29:11**

Offer: This brochure shows how we can listen to God and thus enjoy the future he has in mind for us. [Consider pages 4-5.]

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

Sisters using the *Listen to God* brochure in Indonesia

- Song 126 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Nehemiah Loved True Worship":** (10 min.)
  [Play *Introduction to Nehemiah* video.]
  Ne 1:11–2:3—Nehemiah's joy came from the advancement of true worship (*w06* 2/1 9 ¶7)
  Ne 4:14—Nehemiah overcame opposition to true worship by focusing on Jehovah (*w06* 2/1 10 ¶3)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Ne 1:1; 2:1—Why can we conclude that "the 20th year" mentioned at Nehemiah 1:1 and 2:1 is counted from the same starting point? (*w06* 2/1 8 ¶5)
  Ne 4:17, 18—How could a man do the work of rebuilding with just one hand? (*w06* 2/1 9 ¶1)
  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?
  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?
- **Bible Reading:** Ne 3:1-14 (4 min. or less)

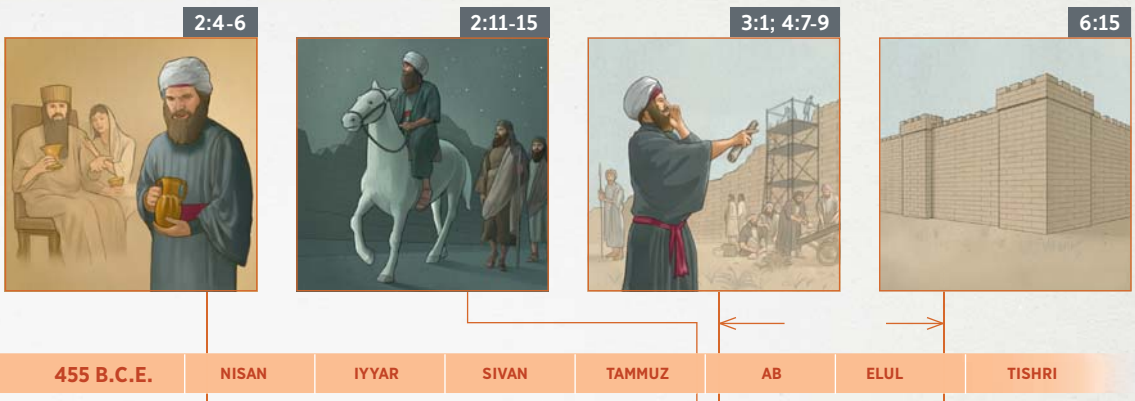
APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play each sample presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Emphasize how the publisher laid the groundwork for a return visit. Encourage publishers to build their own presentation.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 103
- **Plan Now to Serve as an Auxiliary Pioneer During March or April:** (15 min.) Discussion. Consider pertinent points from the article "Make This Memorial Season a Joyful One!" (*km* 2/14 2) Emphasize the need to plan ahead. (Pr 21:5) Interview two publishers who have served as auxiliary pioneers in the past. What obstacles did they have to overcome? What joys did they experience?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 8 ¶1-16 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 135 and Prayer

NEHEMIAH 1-4 | Nehemiah Loved True Worship



- Song 123 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Nehemiah Was an Outstanding Overseer":** (10 min.)

  Ne 5:1-7—Nehemiah listened to the people and took action (*w06* 2/1 9 ¶2)

  Ne 5:14-19—Nehemiah showed humility, unselfishness, and discretion (*w06* 2/1 10 ¶4)

  Ne 8:8-12—Nehemiah participated in providing spiritual instruction to the people (*w06* 2/1 11 ¶4)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ne 6:5—Why did Sanballat send "an open letter" to Nehemiah? (*w06* 2/1 9 ¶3)

  Ne 6:10-13—Why did Nehemiah not accept Shemaiah's recommendation? (*w07* 7/1 30 ¶15)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Ne 6:14–7:7a (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Present the current *Awake!* by featuring the cover subject. Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who showed interest in the cover subject of the current *Awake!* Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Demonstrate a Bible study. (*bh* 28-29 ¶4-5)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 62
- **Are You "Reaching Out"?:** (15 min.) Talk by an elder based on the *Watchtower* of September 15, 2014, pages 3-6. Play the video entitled *Brothers—Reach Out for a Fine Work,* which appeared on JW Broadcasting in December 2015. Emphasize the proper reasons for reaching out, and explain how a brother can do so. Kindly encourage brothers to reach out to qualify to serve as ministerial servants and elders.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 8 ¶17-27, review on p. 75 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 125 and Prayer

NEHEMIAH 5-8 | Nehemiah Was an Outstanding Overseer

Tishri 455 B.C.E.

1. Likely on this occasion, Nehemiah directed the people to assemble for true worship
2. Great rejoicing resulted
3. Family heads gathered to see how they could follow God's Law more closely
4. The people prepared to celebrate the joyous Festival of Booths

8:1-18

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- Song 84 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Faithful Worshippers Support Theocratic Arrangements":** (10 min.)

  Ne 10:28-30—They agreed not to enter into marriage alliances with "the peoples of the land" (*w98* 10/15 21 ¶11)

  Ne 10:32-39—They resolved to support true worship in various ways (*w98* 10/15 21 ¶11-12)

  Ne 11:1, 2—They willingly supported a special theocratic arrangement (*w06* 2/1 11 ¶6; *w98* 10/15 22 ¶13)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ne 9:19-21—How has Jehovah proved that he provides well for his people? (*w13* 9/15 9 ¶9-10)

  Ne 9:6-38—What good example did the Levites set for us regarding prayer? (*w13* 10/15 22-23 ¶6-7)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Ne 11:15-36 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Feature the current *Awake!* using the article "Help for the Family—How to Make Real Friends." Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who showed interest in the article entitled "Help for the Family—How to Make Real Friends" in the current *Awake!* Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Demonstrate a Bible study. (*bh* 32-33 ¶13-14)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 19
- ***"The Best Life Ever":*** (15 min.) Discussion. Start by playing the video. Then consider the questions. Briefly interview a publisher, single or married, who took advantage of several years of singleness to do more in Jehovah's service. (1Co 7:35) What blessings were received as a result?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 9 ¶1-13 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 76 and Prayer

The Best Life Ever

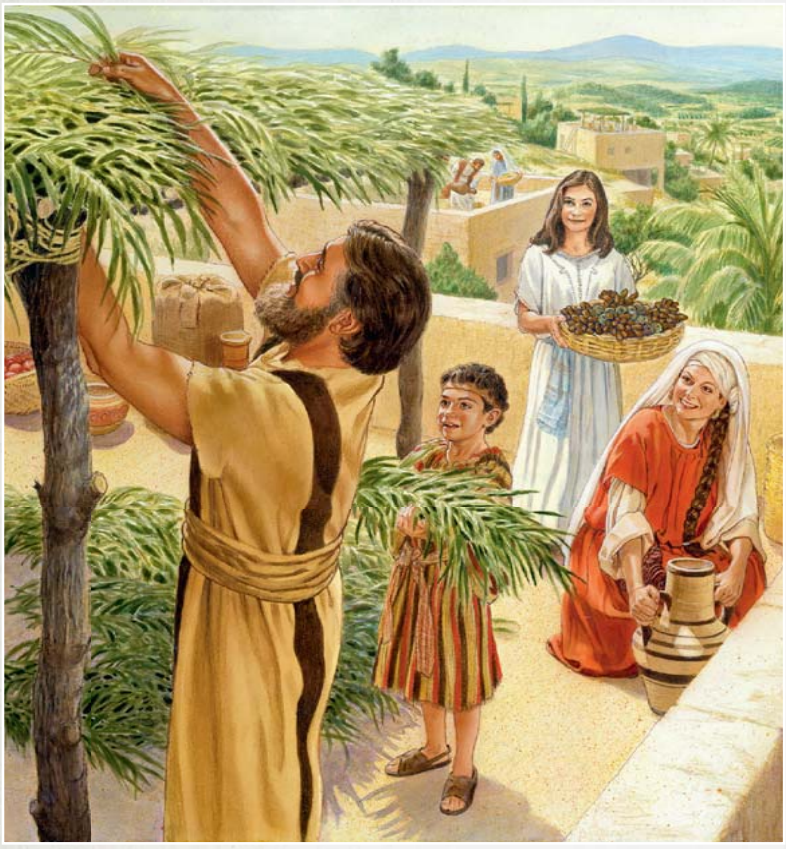
Many opportunities are available to young ones in Jehovah's organization. Watch the video *The Best Life Ever* to see how Cameron made wise use of her youth. Then answer the questions below. (Go to jw.org, and look under BIBLE TEACHINGS > TEENAGERS.)

- What has always been an important part of Cameron's life?
- When and how did she decide to expand her ministry?
- How did she prepare to serve where the need was greater in another land?

- What challenges did Cameron face while serving in a distant land?
- Why may it be beneficial to serve Jehovah in a place or an environment where we have never served before?

- What blessings did Cameron experience?
- Why does serving Jehovah lead to the best life ever?
- What other opportunities are available to young ones in Jehovah's organization?

NEHEMIAH 9-11 | Faithful Worshippers Support Theocratic Arrangements



10:28-30, 32-39; 11:1, 2

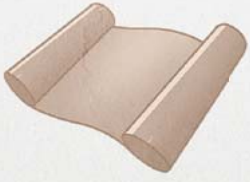
God's people willingly supported true worship in various ways

- The nation prepared for and celebrated the Festival of Booths in the correct way
- Each day the people gathered to listen to the reading of God's Law, which made them rejoice
- The people confessed their sins, prayed, and asked Jehovah to bless them
- The people agreed to continue supporting all theocratic arrangements

Continued support of theocratic arrangements included:

Marrying only those who worshipped Jehovah

Making monetary contributions



Observing the Sabbath

Supplying wood for the altar

Giving the firstfruits of the harvest and the firstborn of the flocks to Jehovah

- Song 106 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Practical Lessons From Nehemiah":** (10 min.)

  Ne 13:4-9—Avoid bad associations (*w13* 8/15 4 ¶5-8)

  Ne 13:15-21—Put spiritual things first (*w13* 8/15 5-6 ¶13-15)

  Ne 13:23-27—Preserve your Christian identity (*w13* 8/15 6-7 ¶16-18)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ne 12:31—What could have been the effect of having two choirs? (*it*-2 454 ¶1)

  Ne 13:31b—What was Nehemiah asking Jehovah to do? (*w11* 2/1 14 ¶3-5)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Ne 12:1-26 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Offer the Memorial invitation to someone who shows little interest.
- **Initial Call:** (4 min. or less) Offer the Memorial invitation and *The Watchtower* to someone who shows genuine interest. Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Explain the Memorial to a Bible student, using the *Bible Teach* book, pages 206-208. Offer practical assistance to help the student attend.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 5
- **"Invite Everyone in Your Territory to the Memorial!":** (15 min.) Discussion. Explain how the congregation will cover its territory. When reviewing "Steps to Consider," play the Memorial video. Encourage all to participate fully in the campaign and to cultivate any interest they find. Include a demonstration.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 9 ¶14-24, review on p. 82 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 39 and Prayer

NEHEMIAH 12-13 | Practical Lessons From Nehemiah

13:4-9, 15-21, 23-27

Nehemiah zealously defended true worship

- High Priest Eliashib allowed Tobiah, who was an unbeliever and an opposer, to influence him
- Eliashib gave Tobiah a space in a temple dining hall
- Nehemiah threw all of Tobiah's furniture out, cleansed the room, and returned it to its proper use
- Nehemiah continued to remove all uncleanness from Jerusalem

- Song 86 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Esther Stood Up for God's People":** (10 min.)
  [Play *Introduction to Esther* video.]
  Es 3:5-9—Haman sought to destroy God's people (*ia* 131 ¶18-19)
  Es 4:11–5:2—Esther's faith was stronger than her fear of death (*ia* 125 ¶2; 134 ¶24-26)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Es 2:15—How did Esther show modesty and self-control? (*w06* 3/1 9 ¶7)
  Es 3:2-4—Why might Mordecai have refused to bow down to Haman? (*ia* 131 ¶18)
  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?
  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?
- **Bible Reading:** Es 1:1-15 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Present the *Listen to God* brochure. Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who accepted the *Listen to God* brochure, and discuss pages 2-3. Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Demonstrate how to conduct a Bible study using pages 4-5 of the *Listen to God and Live Forever* brochure when the householder accepted *Listen to God* on the initial call. (*km* 7/12 2-3 ¶4)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 71
- **Local needs:** (10 min.)
- **How Are You Benefiting From the New Meeting Format and the Workbook?:** (5 min.) Discussion. Invite the audience to comment on how they have benefited personally from this new meeting. Encourage all to prepare well so as to gain the most benefit.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 10 ¶1-11, box on p. 86 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 113 and Prayer

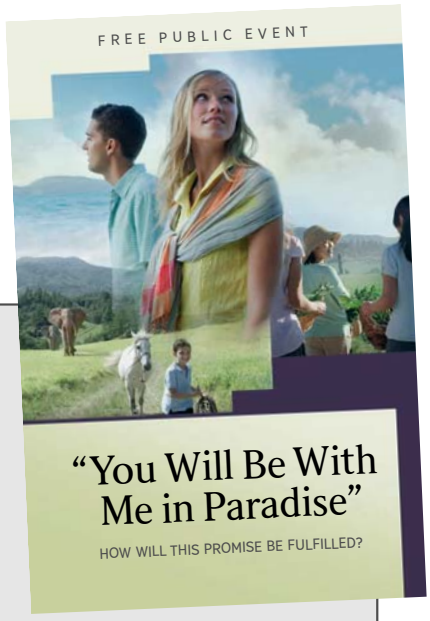
ESTHER 1-5 | Esther Stood Up for God's People

Esther showed remarkable faith and courage when defending God's people

- Appearing before the king unsummoned could have meant death. Esther had not been invited by the king in 30 days
- King Ahasuerus, who is thought to be Xerxes I, had a violent temper. Once, he ordered a man to be cut in half and displayed as a warning to others. He also removed Vashti as queen when she disobeyed him
- Esther had to reveal that she was a Jewess and convince the king that he had been tricked by his trusted adviser

Invite Everyone in Your Territory to the Memorial!

During the campaign that begins on February 27, we will invite as many as possible in our community to observe the Memorial of Christ's death with us. We should also pay careful attention to any interest shown in order to cultivate it.



STEPS TO CONSIDER

GIVE YOUR PRESENTATION

"We are distributing this invitation to a very important event. On March 23, millions around the world will gather to commemorate the death of Jesus Christ and to hear a free Bible discourse about how his death benefits us. This invitation shows the time and location of the meeting being held in our community. Please come if you can."

If the individual shows interest . . .

OFFER *THE WATCHTOWER*

Lay the groundwork for a return visit.

SHOW THE MEMORIAL VIDEO

Lay the groundwork for a return visit.

When you return, you can . . .

SHOW *WHY STUDY THE BIBLE?*

Then offer a Bible study aid.

OFFER *WHAT DOES THE BIBLE REALLY TEACH?*

Share more information about the Memorial, using pages 206-208. Then offer the book.

OFFER *LISTEN TO GOD*

Discuss the meaning of Christ's death, using pages 18-19. Then offer the brochure.

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Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

AWAKE!

Question: Here is your copy of the latest *Awake!* Notice the question here on page 2. May I ask your opinion?

Scripture: **Pr 24:10**

Offer: This article discusses additional principles along this line.

AWAKE!

Question: Would you agree that it's important to choose the right kind of friends?

Scripture: **Pr 13:20**

Offer: This issue of *Awake!* has some practical information about how to make good friends. [Highlight the article on pages 10-11.]

LISTEN TO GOD

Question: Would you like to live in a world that looks like this? [Show pages 2-3, and allow for response.]

Scripture: **Jer 29:11**

Offer: This brochure shows how we can listen to God and thus enjoy the future he has in mind for us. [Consider pages 4-5.]

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

Sisters using the *Listen to God* brochure in Indonesia

- Song 126 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Nehemiah Loved True Worship":** (10 min.)
  [Play *Introduction to Nehemiah* video.]
  Ne 1:11–2:3—Nehemiah's joy came from the advancement of true worship (*w06* 2/1 9 ¶7)
  Ne 4:14—Nehemiah overcame opposition to true worship by focusing on Jehovah (*w06* 2/1 10 ¶3)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Ne 1:1; 2:1—Why can we conclude that "the 20th year" mentioned at Nehemiah 1:1 and 2:1 is counted from the same starting point? (*it-2* 899-900)
  Ne 4:17, 18—How could a man do the work of rebuilding with just one hand? (*w06* 2/1 9 ¶1)
  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?
  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?
- **Bible Reading:** Ne 3:1-14 (4 min. or less)

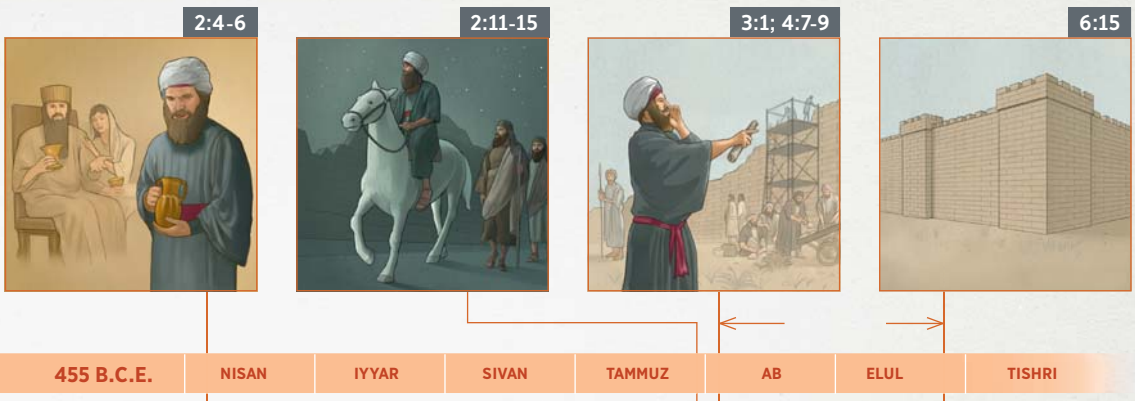
APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play each sample presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Emphasize how the publisher laid the groundwork for a return visit. Encourage publishers to build their own presentation.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 103
- **Plan Now to Serve as an Auxiliary Pioneer During March or April:** (15 min.) Discussion. Consider pertinent points from the article "Make This Memorial Season a Joyful One!" (*km* 2/14 2) Emphasize the need to plan ahead. (Pr 21:5) Interview two publishers who have served as auxiliary pioneers in the past. What obstacles did they have to overcome? What joys did they experience?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 8 ¶1-16 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 135 and Prayer

NEHEMIAH 1-4 | Nehemiah Loved True Worship



- Song 123 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Nehemiah Was an Outstanding Overseer":** (10 min.)

  Ne 5:1-7—Nehemiah listened to the people and took action (*w06* 2/1 9 ¶2)

  Ne 5:14-19—Nehemiah showed humility, unselfishness, and discretion (*w06* 2/1 10 ¶4)

  Ne 8:8-12—Nehemiah participated in providing spiritual instruction to the people (*w06* 2/1 11 ¶4)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ne 6:5—Why did Sanballat send "an open letter" to Nehemiah? (*w06* 2/1 9 ¶3)

  Ne 6:10-13—Why did Nehemiah not accept Shemaiah's recommendation? (*w07* 7/1 30 ¶15)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Ne 6:14–7:7a (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Present the current *Awake!* by featuring the cover subject. Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who showed interest in the cover subject of the current *Awake!* Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Demonstrate a Bible study. (*bh* 28-29 ¶4-5)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 62
- **Are You "Reaching Out"?:** (15 min.) Talk by an elder based on the *Watchtower* of September 15, 2014, pages 3-6. Play the video entitled *Brothers—Reach Out for a Fine Work,* which appeared on JW Broadcasting in December 2015. Emphasize the proper reasons for reaching out, and explain how a brother can do so. Kindly encourage brothers to reach out to qualify to serve as ministerial servants and elders.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 8 ¶17-27, review on p. 75 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 125 and Prayer

NEHEMIAH 5-8 | Nehemiah Was an Outstanding Overseer

Tishri 455 B.C.E.

1. Likely on this occasion, Nehemiah directed the people to assemble for true worship
2. Great rejoicing resulted
3. Family heads gathered to see how they could follow God's Law more closely
4. The people prepared to celebrate the joyous Festival of Booths

8:1-18

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- Song 84 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Faithful Worshippers Support Theocratic Arrangements":** (10 min.)

  Ne 10:28-30—They agreed not to enter into marriage alliances with "the peoples of the land" (*w98* 10/15 21 ¶11)

  Ne 10:32-39—They resolved to support true worship in various ways (*w98* 10/15 21 ¶11-12)

  Ne 11:1, 2—They willingly supported a special theocratic arrangement (*w06* 2/1 11 ¶6; *w98* 10/15 22 ¶13)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ne 9:19-21—How has Jehovah proved that he provides well for his people? (*w13* 9/15 9 ¶9-10)

  Ne 9:6-38—What good example did the Levites set for us regarding prayer? (*w13* 10/15 22-23 ¶6-7)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Ne 11:15-36 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Feature the current *Awake!* using the article "Help for the Family—How to Make Real Friends." Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who showed interest in the article entitled "Help for the Family—How to Make Real Friends" in the current *Awake!* Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Demonstrate a Bible study. (*bh* 32-33 ¶13-14)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 19
- ***"The Best Life Ever":*** (15 min.) Discussion. Start by playing the video. Then consider the questions. Briefly interview a publisher, single or married, who took advantage of several years of singleness to do more in Jehovah's service. (1Co 7:35) What blessings were received as a result?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 9 ¶1-13 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 76 and Prayer

The Best Life Ever

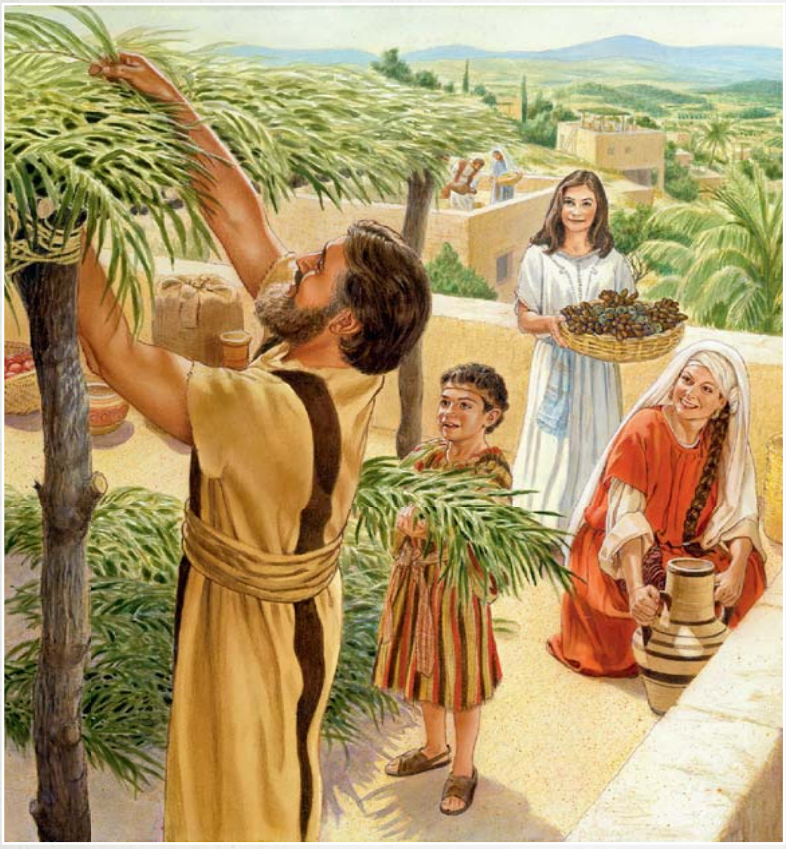
Many opportunities are available to young ones in Jehovah's organization. Watch the video *The Best Life Ever* to see how Cameron made wise use of her youth. Then answer the questions below. (Go to jw.org, and look under BIBLE TEACHINGS > TEENAGERS.)

- What has always been an important part of Cameron's life?
- When and how did she decide to expand her ministry?
- How did she prepare to serve where the need was greater in another land?

- What challenges did Cameron face while serving in a distant land?
- Why may it be beneficial to serve Jehovah in a place or an environment where we have never served before?

- What blessings did Cameron experience?
- Why does serving Jehovah lead to the best life ever?
- What other opportunities are available to young ones in Jehovah's organization?

NEHEMIAH 9-11 | Faithful Worshippers Support Theocratic Arrangements



10:28-30, 32-39; 11:1, 2

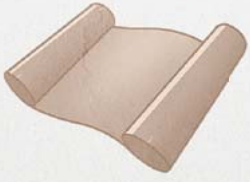
God's people willingly supported true worship in various ways

- The nation prepared for and celebrated the Festival of Booths in the correct way
- Each day the people gathered to listen to the reading of God's Law, which made them rejoice
- The people confessed their sins, prayed, and asked Jehovah to bless them
- The people agreed to continue supporting all theocratic arrangements

Continued support of theocratic arrangements included:

Marrying only those who worshipped Jehovah

Making monetary contributions



Observing the Sabbath

Supplying wood for the altar

Giving the firstfruits of the harvest and the firstborn of the flocks to Jehovah

- Song 106 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Practical Lessons From Nehemiah":** (10 min.)

  Ne 13:4-9—Avoid bad associations (*w13* 8/15 4 ¶5-8)

  Ne 13:15-21—Put spiritual things first (*w13* 8/15 5-6 ¶13-15)

  Ne 13:23-27—Preserve your Christian identity (*w13* 8/15 6-7 ¶16-18)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ne 12:31—What could have been the effect of having two choirs? (*it*-2 454 ¶1)

  Ne 13:31b—What was Nehemiah asking Jehovah to do? (*w11* 2/1 14 ¶3-5)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Ne 12:1-26 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Offer the Memorial invitation to someone who shows little interest.
- **Initial Call:** (4 min. or less) Offer the Memorial invitation and *The Watchtower* to someone who shows genuine interest. Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Explain the Memorial to a Bible student, using the *Bible Teach* book, pages 206-208. Offer practical assistance to help the student attend.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 5
- **"Invite Everyone in Your Territory to the Memorial!":** (15 min.) Discussion. Explain how the congregation will cover its territory. When reviewing "Steps to Consider," play the Memorial video. Encourage all to participate fully in the campaign and to cultivate any interest they find. Include a demonstration.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 9 ¶14-24, review on p. 82 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 147 and Prayer

NEHEMIAH 12-13 | Practical Lessons From Nehemiah

13:4-9, 15-21, 23-27

Nehemiah zealously defended true worship

- High Priest Eliashib allowed Tobiah, who was an unbeliever and an opposer, to influence him
- Eliashib gave Tobiah a space in a temple dining hall
- Nehemiah threw all of Tobiah's furniture out, cleansed the room, and returned it to its proper use
- Nehemiah continued to remove all uncleanness from Jerusalem

- Song 86 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Esther Stood Up for God's People":** (10 min.)
  [Play *Introduction to Esther* video.]
  Es 3:5-9—Haman sought to destroy God's people (*ia* 131 ¶18-19)
  Es 4:11–5:2—Esther's faith was stronger than her fear of death (*ia* 125 ¶2; 134 ¶24-26)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Es 2:15—How did Esther show modesty and self-control? (*w06* 3/1 9 ¶7)
  Es 3:2-4—Why might Mordecai have refused to bow down to Haman? (*ia* 131 ¶18)
  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?
  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?
- **Bible Reading:** Es 1:1-15 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Present the *Listen to God* brochure. Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who accepted the *Listen to God* brochure, and discuss pages 2-3. Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) Demonstrate how to conduct a Bible study using pages 4-5 of the *Listen to God and Live Forever* brochure when the householder accepted *Listen to God* on the initial call. (*km* 7/12 2-3 ¶4)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 71
- **Local needs:** (10 min.)
- **How Are You Benefiting From the New Meeting Format and the Workbook?:** (5 min.) Discussion. Invite the audience to comment on how they have benefited personally from this new meeting. Encourage all to prepare well so as to gain the most benefit.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 10 ¶1-11, box on p. 86 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 149 and Prayer

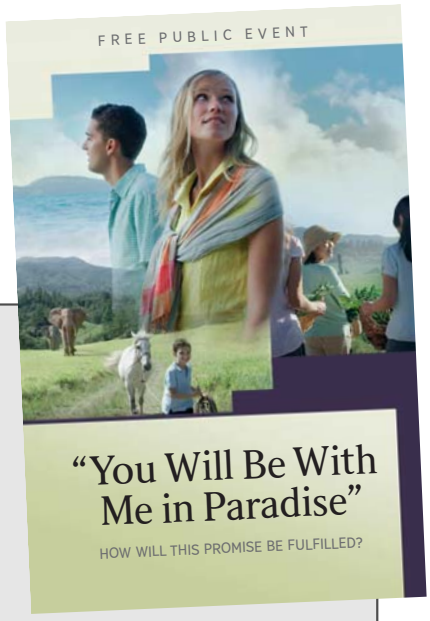
ESTHER 1-5 | Esther Stood Up for God's People

Esther showed remarkable faith and courage when defending God's people

- Appearing before the king unsummoned could have meant death. Esther had not been invited by the king in 30 days
- King Ahasuerus, who is thought to be Xerxes I, had a violent temper. Once, he ordered a man to be cut in half and displayed as a warning to others. He also removed Vashti as queen when she disobeyed him
- Esther had to reveal that she was a Jewess and convince the king that he had been tricked by his trusted adviser

Invite Everyone in Your Territory to the Memorial!

During the campaign that begins on February 27, we will invite as many as possible in our community to observe the Memorial of Christ's death with us. We should also pay careful attention to any interest shown in order to cultivate it.



STEPS TO CONSIDER

GIVE YOUR PRESENTATION

"We are distributing this invitation to a very important event. On March 23, millions around the world will gather to commemorate the death of Jesus Christ and to hear a free Bible discourse about how his death benefits us. This invitation shows the time and location of the meeting being held in our community. Please come if you can."

If the individual shows interest . . .

OFFER *THE WATCHTOWER*

Lay the groundwork for a return visit.

SHOW THE MEMORIAL VIDEO

Lay the groundwork for a return visit.

When you return, you can . . .

SHOW *WHY STUDY THE BIBLE?*

Then offer a Bible study aid.

OFFER *WHAT DOES THE BIBLE REALLY TEACH?*

Share more information about the Memorial, using pages 206-208. Then offer the book.

OFFER *LISTEN TO GOD*

Discuss the meaning of Christ's death, using pages 18-19. Then offer the brochure.

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

THE WATCHTOWER

Question: Are you familiar with these famous words?

Scripture: **Joh 3:16**

Offer: This issue of *The Watchtower* explains how Jesus' suffering and death can benefit you.

***THE WATCHTOWER* (back page)**

Question: Notice this question and some common answers. [Read the first question along with the listed options.] How would you answer?

Scripture: **Mt 4:1-4**

Offer: Since the Devil conversed with Jesus and tempted him, the Devil must be more than merely a symbol of evil. What else does the Bible say about the Devil? This article explains more.

MEMORIAL INVITATION

Offer: We're distributing this invitation to a very important event. [Give the householder an invitation.] On March 23, millions around the world will gather to commemorate the death of Jesus Christ and to hear a free Bible discourse about how his death benefits us. This invitation shows the time and location of the meeting being held in our area. Please come if you can.

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 131 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Esther Acted Unselfishly for Jehovah and for His People":** (10 min.)

  Es 8:3, 4—Although Esther was safe, she risked her life for others (*ia* 143 ¶24-25)

  Es 8:5—Esther was tactful with Ahasuerus (*w06* 3/1 11 ¶8)

  Es 8:17—Many people became Jewish proselytes (*w06* 3/1 11 ¶3)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Es 8:1, 2—How was Jacob's deathbed prophecy fulfilled regarding Benjamin's 'dividing spoil in the evening'? (*ia* 142, box)

  Es 9:10, 15, 16—Even though the decree authorized plundering of the spoil, why did the Jews refrain from doing so? (*w06* 3/1 11 ¶4)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Es 8:1-9 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play each sample presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Afterward, discuss the article "Improving Our Skills in the Ministry —Building Your Own Magazine Presentation."

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 118
- **"Welcome Our Guests":** (15 min.) Discussion. Invite publishers to relate good experiences that resulted from taking the initiative to welcome visitors attending a past Memorial. Have a reenactment of an outstanding experience.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 10 ¶12-21, review on p. 91 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 147 and Prayer

Welcome Our Guests

On March 23, some 12 million or more visitors are expected to attend the Memorial as our guests. What an outstanding witness they will receive as the speaker discusses Jehovah's gift of the ransom and some of the future blessings that will result to mankind! (Isa 11:6-9; 35:5, 6; 65:21-23; Joh 3:16) However, the speaker is not the only one who will give a witness on this special occasion. All of us can have a share by warmly welcoming our guests. (Ro 15:7) Here are some suggestions.

- Instead of going to your seat and waiting for the program to begin, welcome visitors and inactive ones with a warm smile and a friendly greeting
- While giving special attention to acquaintances that you personally invited, be alert for others who may be there as a result of the invitation campaign. Invite new ones to sit with you. Share your Bible and songbook with them
- After the talk, make yourself available to answer questions. If time is limited because your congregation must leave to make room for another congregation, make arrangements to visit the person within a few days. If you do not have his or her contact information, you might say: "I'd like to hear what you thought of the program. Is there a way that I can contact you?"

ESTHER 6-10 | Esther Acted Unselfishly for Jehovah and for His People

8:3-5, 9

Esther was brave and selfless in defending Jehovah and his people

- Esther and Mordecai were safe. But Haman's decree to kill all the Jews was making its way to every corner of the empire
- Esther risked her life again, appearing uninvited before the king. She wept for her people and asked the king to revoke the terrible edict
- Laws passed in the king's name could not be revoked. So the king empowered Esther and Mordecai to enact a new law

8:10-14, 17

Jehovah gave his people a great victory

- A second proclamation was made, giving the Jews the right to defend themselves
- Riders sped to every part of the empire, and the Jews prepared for battle
- Many people saw evidence of God's favor and became Jewish proselytes

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- Song 89 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Job Kept Integrity Under Test":** (10 min.)
  [Play *Introduction to Job* video.]

  Job 1:8-11—Satan questioned the motives behind Job's integrity (*w11* 5/15 17 ¶6-8; *w09* 4/15 3 ¶3-4)

  Job 2:2-5—Satan questioned the integrity of all men (*w09* 4/15 4 ¶6)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Job 1:6; 2:1—Who were allowed to enter before Jehovah? (*w06* 3/15 13 ¶6)

  Job 4:7, 18, 19—What false reasoning did Eliphaz present to Job? (*w14* 3/15 13 ¶3; *w05* 9/15 26 ¶4-5; *w95* 2/15 27 ¶5-6)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Job 4:1-21 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** *wp16.2* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit. (2 min. or less)
- **Return Visit:** *wp16.2* cover—Lay the groundwork for the next visit. (4 min. or less)
- **Bible Study:** *fg* lesson 2 ¶2-3 (6 min. or less)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 88
- ***Stand Up to Peer Pressure!:*** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the jw.org video *Stand Up to Peer Pressure!* (Go to BIBLE TEACHINGS > TEENAGERS.) Afterward, ask the following: What pressures do children face in school? How can they apply the principle at Exodus 23:2? What four steps will give them strength to stand up to peer pressure and keep their integrity? Invite youths to relate positive experiences.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 11 ¶1-11 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 149 and Prayer

JOB 1-5 | Job Kept Integrity Under Test

Job lived in Uz during the time the Israelites were enslaved in Egypt. Though not an Israelite, Job was a loyal worshipper of Jehovah. He had a large family, great wealth, and influence in his community. He was a highly regarded counselor and an impartial judge. He was generous to the poor and needy. Job was a man of integrity.

1:8-11, 22; 2:2-5

Job clearly showed that Jehovah was the most important Person in his life

- Satan took note of Job's integrity. He did not deny Job's obedience to Jehovah; rather, he questioned Job's motives
- Satan claimed that Job served Jehovah out of selfish interest
- To provide an answer to Satan's charge, Jehovah allowed Satan to attack that faithful man. Satan brought devastation to all aspects of Job's life
- When Job maintained his integrity, Satan questioned the integrity of all men
- Job did not sin or accuse God of doing anything wrong

- Song 68 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Faithful Job Expresses His Anguish":** (10 min.)

  Job 6:1-3, 9, 10, 26; 7:11, 16—What people say in anguish may not be a true reflection of what they really are at heart (*w13* 8/15 19 ¶7; *w13* 5/15 22 ¶13)

  Job 9:20-22—Job mistakenly concluded that God did not care whether he kept his faith in Him or not (*w15* 7/1 12 ¶2)

  Job 10:12—Even when severely tested, Job said positive things about Jehovah (*w09* 4/15 7 ¶18; *w09* 4/15 10 ¶13)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Job 6:14—How did Job highlight the importance of loyal love? (*w10* 11/15 32 ¶20)

  Job 7:9, 10; 10:21—If Job hoped in a future resurrection, then why did he make the statements found in these verses? (*w06* 3/15 14 ¶11)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Job 9:1-21 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** *wp16.2* 16—Mention the donation arrangement. (2 min. or less)
- **Return Visit:** *wp16.2* 16—Lay the groundwork for the next visit. (4 min. or less)
- **Bible Study:** *fg* lesson 2 ¶6-8 (6 min. or less)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 114
- **Use Insight When Comforting Others:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video that the elders viewed at a recent Kingdom Ministry School. Then invite comments on how the two brothers were a good example of how to give encouragement when someone expresses anguish over the death of a loved one.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 11 ¶12-20, review on p. 98 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 27 and Prayer

JOB 6-10 | Faithful Job Expresses His Anguish

Job was destitute, bereaved, and gravely ill, but he remained faithful. So Satan tried to use discouragement to break his integrity. Three "companions" arrived. First they made a public show of sympathy. Then they sat with Job in silence for seven days, not offering even one word of comfort. The speeches that followed were full of charges and harsh accusations.

6:3; 7:16; 9:20-22; 10:1, 12

Job maintained his loyalty to Jehovah despite severe pressure

- Extreme grief caused Job to have the wrong perspective. He mistakenly concluded that God did not care if he remained faithful
- Because of discouragement, Job did not consider other possible reasons for his suffering
- Though grief-stricken, Job still spoke to his accusers about his love for Jehovah

- Song 111 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Job Was Confident in the Resurrection":** (10 min.)

  Job 14:1, 2—Job summed up the current situation of human life (*w15* 3/1 3; *w10* 5/1 5 ¶2; *w08* 3/1 3 ¶3)

  Job 14:13-15a—Job knew Jehovah would not forget him (*w15* 8/1 5; *w14* 1/1 7 ¶4; *w11* 3/1 22 ¶2-4)

  Job 14:15b—Jehovah treasures his faithful worshippers (*w15* 8/1 7 ¶3; *w14* 6/15 14 ¶12; *w11* 3/1 22 ¶3-6)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Job 12:12—Why do older Christians have the potential to help younger Christians? (*g99* 7/22 11, box)

  Job 15:27—What did Eliphaz mean when he intimated that Job's face was "covered with fat"? (*it*-1 802 ¶4)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading**: Job 14:1-22 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** *fg* lesson 13 ¶1—Lay the groundwork for a return visit. (2 min. or less)
- **Return Visit:** *fg* lesson 13 ¶2—Lay the groundwork for the next visit. (4 min. or less)
- **Bible Study:** *fg* lesson 13 ¶3-4 (6 min. or less)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

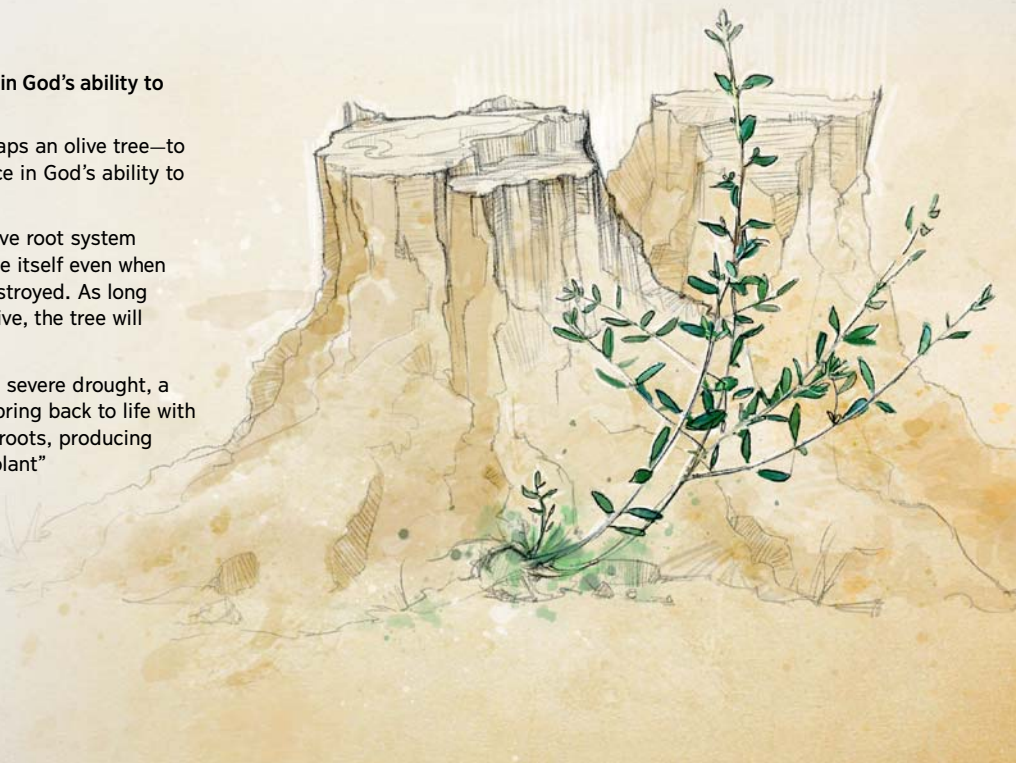
- Song 134
- **Local needs:** (5 min.)
- **"The Resurrection—Made Possible by the Ransom":** (10 min.) Discussion. Conclude by playing the video that was shown at the 2014 "Keep Seeking First God's Kingdom!" Regional Convention.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 12 ¶1-12 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 33 and Prayer

JOB 11-15 | Job Was Confident in the Resurrection

14:7-9, 13-15

Job expressed his faith in God's ability to resurrect him

- Job used a tree—perhaps an olive tree—to illustrate his confidence in God's ability to resurrect him
- An olive tree's expansive root system enables it to rejuvenate itself even when the trunk has been destroyed. As long as the roots remain alive, the tree will sprout again
- When rainfall breaks a severe drought, a dry olive stump can spring back to life with shoots rising from its roots, producing "branches like a new plant"



The Resurrection—Made Possible by the Ransom

The Memorial gives us a good opportunity to reflect on future blessings that are made possible by the ransom, such as the resurrection. Jehovah never intended for humans to die. That is why one of the most painful emotions we experience is grief over the death of a loved one. (1Co 15:26) Jesus was pained to see his disciples mourn the loss of Lazarus. (Joh 11:33-35) Since Jesus is a perfect reflection of his Father, we can be sure that Jehovah is also pained to see us grieve over the loss of our loved ones. (Joh 14:7) Jehovah eagerly anticipates the time when he will bring his servants back from the dead, and we should too.—Job 14: 14, 15.

Since Jehovah is a God of order, it is reasonable to believe that the resurrection will take place in an orderly way. (1Co 14:33, 40) Instead of funerals, there may be welcoming sessions for the resurrected. Do you meditate on the resurrection, especially during times of grief? (2Co 4:17, 18) Do you thank Jehovah for providing the ransom and for revealing in the Scriptures that the dead will live again?—Col 3:15.

Which of your friends and relatives do you especially look forward to seeing again?

Which Bible characters do you especially want to meet and talk to?

IMPROVING OUR SKILLS IN THE MINISTRY

Building Your Own Magazine Presentation

WHY IMPORTANT: Although the sample presentations that appear in the meeting workbook provide helpful ideas, these are simply outlines. You should use your own words. You may prefer a different approach or feel that another subject would have more appeal locally. If so, after you have read the magazine, considered the sample presentations, and seen the video demonstrations, you can use the following suggestions to build a personal presentation.

HOW TO DO IT:

Ask yourself, 'Do I want to use one of the sample presentations?'

YES

- Prepare your opening words. After giving a customary greeting, state concisely the reason for your visit. (Example: "I am here because . . . ")
- Consider how you will transition between the question, the scripture, and the offer. (Example: To introduce a scripture, you might say: "A satisfying answer to that question can be found right here.")

- Prepare a follow-up question to answer on the return visit
- Make notes to help you remember what you want to say next time

NO

- Choose a subject from the magazine that interests you and will have appeal in your territory
- Decide on a viewpoint question to ask that will stimulate thought and conversation but not put the householder on the spot. (Example: The questions that appear on page 2 of the magazines.)
- Choose a scripture to read. (If you are featuring *Awake!* reading a scripture is optional, since this magazine is designed for those who have little knowledge of the Bible and may even distrust religion.)
- Formulate a sentence or two that explains how the householder will benefit from reading the article

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

AWAKE!

Offer: Here is your copy of the latest *Awake!*

Question: Notice the question here on page 2. May I ask your opinion?

Scripture: **Lu 7:35**

This article discusses how that principle applies to the Bible itself.

AWAKE!

Question: Would you agree that these are wise words to live by?

Scripture: **Mt 6:34**

Offer: [Open to the article "The Bible's Viewpoint —Anxiety."] This article shows how the Bible can help us deal with anxiety.

Bible Teach

Question: Many who believe in God would like to feel closer to him. Did you know that the Bible invites us to draw close to God?

Scripture: **Jas 4:8a**

Offer: This book is designed to help us learn more about God by means of the Bible. [Highlight chapter 1 of the *Bible Teach* book.]

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

Brothers and sisters at the 2014 international convention, New Jersey, U.S.A.

- Song 79 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Encourage and Strengthen Others With Kind Words":** (10 min.)

  Job 16:4, 5—A counselor's words should strengthen others (*w90* 3/15 27 ¶1-2)

  Job 19:2—Bildad's unkind words caused Job to cry out in distress (*w06* 3/15 15 ¶6; *w94* 10/1 32)

  Job 19:25—The resurrection hope sustained Job when he was pressed to the limit (*w06* 3/15 15 ¶5; *it*-2 735 ¶2-3)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Job 19:20—What did Job mean by the expression "I escape with the skin of my teeth"? (*w06* 3/15 15 ¶1; *it*-2 977 ¶1)

  Job 19:26—How could Job "see God," since no human can see Jehovah? (*w94* 11/15 19 ¶17)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Job 19:1-23 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play each sample presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to build their own presentation.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 42
- **"New Feature for Starting Conversations":** (10 min.) Discussion. Encourage all to use "What Does the Bible Say?" to start conversations that may lead to a Bible study.
- **Questions From Readers:** (5 min.) Talk by an elder based on the February 15, 2015, *Watchtower,* page 30, paragraphs 4-6.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 12 ¶13-25, review on p. 107 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 65 and Prayer

New Feature for Starting Conversations

Since January 2016, the back page of the public edition of *The Watchtower* has featured "What Does the Bible Say?" This new feature is designed to help us start conversations on Bible topics. The format is similar to that of our tracts. There is a viewpoint question followed by a Scriptural answer, as well as additional points for discussion.

Pleasant conversations on Scriptural topics often lead to Bible studies. Use this new feature to help many more to satisfy their spiritual hunger. —Mt 5:6.

HOW TO USE THE FEATURE:

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

What happens when we die?

SOME PEOPLE BELIEVE that we live on in another form, while others feel that death is the end of everything. **What do you believe?**

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

"The dead know nothing at all." (Ecclesiastes 9:5) When we die, we cease to exist.

WHAT ELSE WE LEARN FROM THE BIBLE

- The first man, Adam, returned to the dust when he died. (Genesis 2:7; 3:19) Likewise, all others who die return to the dust.—Ecclesiastes 3:19, 20.
- People who die are acquitted of, or pardoned for, their sins. (Romans 6:7) There is no further punishment for sin after a person dies.

Can the dead live again?

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

• Yes • No • Maybe

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

"There is going to be a resurrection."—Acts 24:15.

WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN FROM THE BIBLE?

- The Bible often compares death to sleep. (John 11:11-14) God can awaken the dead, just as we can awaken a person from sleep. —Job 14:13-15.
- The Bible records several resurrections, thus giving us a solid basis for believing that the dead will be raised up.—1 Kings 17:17-24; Luke 7:11-17; John 11:39-44.

Please send me a copy of *What Does the Bible Really Teach?*

For more information, see chapter 6 of this book, published by Jehovah's Witnesses.

Also available at www.jw.org

LANGUAGE

NAME

ADDRESS

For mailing address, see page 2

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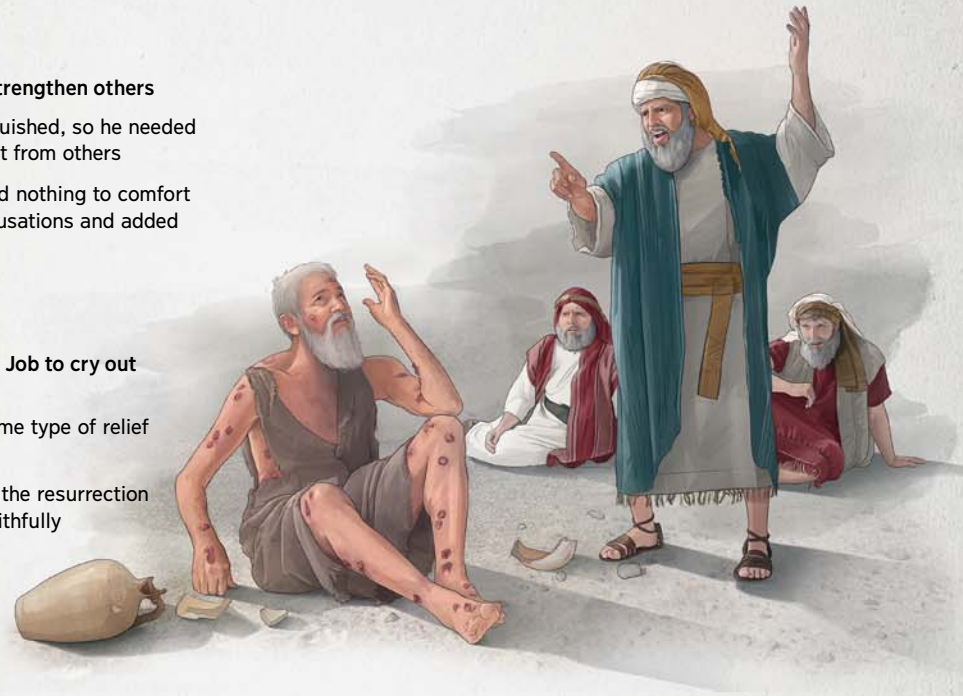
1. **Ask** for the householder's opinion on one of the questions
2. **Listen** to and acknowledge his answer
3. **Read** the scripture under the heading "What the Bible Says," and ask for his thoughts on the verse. If he has time, continue the conversation, using a point under the heading "What Else Can We Learn From the Bible?"
4. **Offer** the magazine
5. **Arrange** to return and discuss the second question

JOB 16-20 | Encourage and Strengthen Others With Kind Words



16:4, 5

A counselor's words should strengthen others

- Job felt depressed and anguished, so he needed support and encouragement from others
- Job's three companions said nothing to comfort him. Rather, they made accusations and added to his anxiety

19:2, 25

Bildad's unkind words caused Job to cry out in distress

- Job cried out to God for some type of relief —even death
- Job focused on his hope in the resurrection and continued to endure faithfully

JOB'S ACCUSERS

Eliphaz:

- Possibly from Teman in the land of Edom. Teman is noted at Jeremiah 49:7 as a center of Edomite wisdom
- Likely the oldest and most influential of the "comforters," Eliphaz was the first to speak. He gave three speeches and spoke longer than the other two men

False accusations:

- Ridiculed Job's integrity and claimed that God had no faith in his servants (Job 4, 5)
- Called Job presumptuous and wicked and claimed that Job had no fear of God (Job 15)
- Accused Job of greed and injustice and claimed that man is useless to God (Job 22)

Bildad:

- A descendant of Shuah. He may have lived along the Euphrates River
- He was the second to speak. His three speeches were shorter and more hurtful than those of Eliphaz

False accusations:

- Implied that Job's sons had sinned and deserved the calamity that struck them and suggested that Job himself was godless (Job 8)
- Implied that Job was a wrongdoer (Job 18)
- Claimed that man's integrity is in vain (Job 25)

Zophar:

- A Naamathite, possibly from northwest Arabia
- He was the third to speak and the harshest accuser. He gave only two speeches

False accusations:

- Accused Job of empty talk and told him to put away his evil practices (Job 11)
- Implied that Job was wicked and enjoyed sin (Job 20)

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- Song 83 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Job Resisted Wrong Thinking":** (10 min.)

  Job 22:2-7—Eliphaz gave counsel based on false assumptions and personal opinion (*w06* 3/15 15 ¶7; *w05* 9/15 26-27; *w95* 2/15 27 ¶6)

  Job 25:4, 5—Bildad presented wrong ideas (*w05* 9/15 26-27)

  Job 27:5, 6—Job did not allow others to make him think that he had failed as an integrity keeper (*w09* 8/15 4 ¶8; *w06* 3/15 15 ¶9)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Job 24:2—Why was moving a boundary marker a serious offense? (*it*-1 360)

  Job 26:7—What is notable about Job's description of the earth? (*w15* 6/1 5 ¶4; *w11* 7/1 26 ¶2-5)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Job 27:1-23 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** *g16.2* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit. (2 min. or less)
- **Return Visit:** *g16.2* cover—Lay the groundwork for the next visit. (4 min. or less)
- **Bible Study:** *bh* 145 ¶3-4 (6 min. or less)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 129
- ***Beat a Bully Without Using Your Fists:*** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the whiteboard animation *Beat a Bully Without Using Your Fists.* (Go to jw.org, and look under BIBLE TEACHINGS > TEENAGERS.) Afterward, discuss the following questions: Why might a person be bullied? What are some negative effects of bullying? How can you deal with bullying or possibly avoid it? Whom should you talk to if you are being bullied? Direct attention to the *Young People Ask* book, Volume 2, chapter 14.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 13 ¶1-12 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 23 and Prayer

JOB 21-27 | Job Resisted Wrong Thinking

Satan uses lies to discourage Jehovah's servants today. Note the contrast between Satan's lies and Jehovah's true feelings, as shown in the book of Job. List additional Bible verses that prove to you that Jehovah cares about you.

LIES SATAN TELLS	HOW JEHOVAH REALLY FEELS
• God is so exacting that nothing his servants do is good enough. No creation can please him **(Job 4:18; 25:5)**	• Jehovah appreciates our humble efforts **(Job 36:5)**
• Man is useless to God **(Job 22:2)**	• Jehovah accepts and blesses our faithful service **(Job 33:26; 36:11)**
• God does not care that you are righteous **(Job 22:3)**	• Jehovah watches over the righteous **(Job 36:7)**

- Song 17 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Job Was an Example of Integrity":** (10 min.)

  Job 31:1—Job made "a covenant" with his eyes (*w15* 6/15 16 ¶13; *w15* 1/15 25 ¶10)

  Job 31:13-15—Job was humble, just, and considerate of others (*w10* 11/15 30 ¶8-9)

  Job 31:16-25—Job was generous to those who had less (*w10* 11/15 30 ¶10-11)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Job 32:2—In what sense did Job try "to prove himself right rather than God"? (*w15* 7/1 12 ¶2; *it*-1 606 ¶5)

  Job 32:8, 9—Why did Elihu feel that he could speak even though he was younger than his listeners? (*w06* 3/15 16 ¶1; *it*-2 549 ¶6)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Job 30:24–31:14 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** *g16.2* 12-13—Lay the groundwork for a return visit. (2 min. or less)
- **Return Visit:** *g16.2* 12-13—Lay the groundwork for the next visit. (4 min. or less)
- **Bible Study:** *bh* 148 ¶8-9 (6 min. or less)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 115
- **Learn From the Integrity of Others (1Pe 5:9):** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Harold King: Remaining Faithful in Prison.* (Go to tv.jw.org, and look under VIDEO ON DEMAND > INTERVIEWS AND EXPERIENCES.) Thereafter, consider the following questions: How did Brother King maintain his spirituality while in prison? How can singing Kingdom songs help us to endure difficult circumstances in life? How does Brother King's faithful example motivate you?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 13 ¶13-25, review on p. 114 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 81 and Prayer

JOB 28-32 | Job Was an Example of Integrity

31:1

Job was determined to follow Jehovah's moral standards

- He controlled his eyes and gave romantic attention only to his wife

31:13-15

Job was a good example in how he treated others

- He was humble, just, and merciful. He was considerate of all people regardless of their social or economic status

31:16-19

Job was generous, not selfish

- He was helpful and gave to those in need

- Song 50 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"A True Friend Gives Upbuilding Counsel":** (10 min.)

  Job 33:1-5—Elihu showed respect for Job (*w95* 2/15 29 ¶3-5)

  Job 33:6, 7—Elihu was humble and kind (*w95* 2/15 29 ¶3-5)

  Job 33:24, 25—Elihu encouraged Job even while giving counsel (*w11* 4/1 23 ¶3; *w09* 4/15 4 ¶8)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Job 33:24, 25—What might have been the "ransom" that Elihu mentioned? (*w11* 4/1 23 ¶3-5)

  Job 34:36—To what extent was Job to be tested, and what does that teach us? (*w94* 11/15 17 ¶10)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** Job 33:1-25 (4 min. or less)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** Offer the 2016 regional convention invitation using the sample presentation. (2 min. or less)
- **Return Visit:** *fg* lesson 12 ¶4-5—Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who accepted the convention invitation. Lay the groundwork for the next visit. (4 min. or less)
- **Bible Study:** *jl* lesson 11—Encourage the student to attend an upcoming convention. (6 min. or less)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 124
- **"Convention Reminders":** (8 min.) Talk. Play the video *Convention Reminders.* (Go to tv.jw.org, and look under VIDEO ON DEMAND > OUR ACTIVITIES.) Encourage all to finalize their plans to attend all three days. Outline local arrangements for the invitation campaign.
- **Local needs:** (7 min.)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** *ia* chap. 14 ¶1-13 (30 min.)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 21 and Prayer

Convention Reminders

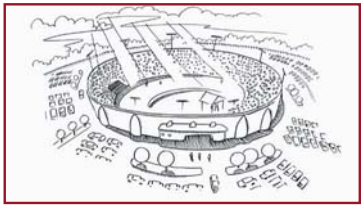
As at other times, we want to be guided by love for God and neighbor during the convention season. (Mt 22:37-39) First Corinthians 13:4-8 describes love in action: "Love is patient and kind. . . . [It] does not behave indecently, does not look for its own interests, does not become provoked. . . . Love never fails." As you watch the video *Convention Reminders,* think about ways you can show love for others at the convention.

HOW CAN WE SHOW LOVE . . .

when saving seats?

when the musical program is about to begin?

at our lodgings in the convention city?



by volunteering to help?

JOB 33-37 | A True Friend Gives Upbuilding Counsel

When Elihu entered the conversation, his counsel was completely different from that of Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar, both in content and in the way he dealt with Job. He proved himself to be a true friend and an effective counselor, worthy of imitation.

QUALITIES OF AN EFFECTIVE COUNSELOR

- PATIENT
- ATTENTIVE
- RESPECTFUL
- HUMBLE
- APPROACHABLE
- EMPATHETIC
- BALANCED
- KIND
- GOD-ORIENTED

ELIHU SET A GOOD EXAMPLE

32:4-7, 11, 12; 33:1

- Elihu waited patiently for the older men to finish speaking before he spoke
- By listening attentively, he had a better understanding of the issues at hand before giving counsel
- He used Job's name and spoke to him as a friend

33:6, 7, 32

- Elihu was humble and kind, admitting his own imperfection
- He was empathetic to Job's suffering

33:24, 25; 35:2, 5

- Elihu kindly showed Job that his viewpoint was unbalanced
- Elihu helped Job to see that his own righteousness was not the most important thing
- Elihu's sound counsel prepared the way for Job to receive additional instruction from Jehovah himself

Convention Invitation Campaign

Each year, anticipation builds for the spiritual feast that we enjoy at our regional conventions. So that others too may taste Jehovah's goodness, we will invite as many as possible to attend with us. (Ps 34:8) Each body of elders will determine how to make the best possible use of the invitations.

DETAILS TO KEEP IN MIND

When is my convention?

When does the campaign begin locally?

When are the local meetings for field service?

What are my goals for the campaign?

Whom do I plan to invite?

WHAT WILL YOU SAY?

After giving a customary greeting, you might say:

"We are involved in a global campaign to distribute this invitation to a very important event. The date, time, and address are printed on the invitation. We would enjoy having you present with us."

HOW CAN YOU CULTIVATE INTEREST?

Although we want to invite as many people as possible to the convention, we should be alert to cultivate any interest shown.

On weekends, you may offer the magazine along with the invitation.

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

THE WATCHTOWER

Question: Does it seem possible to you that these words will ever be fulfilled?

Scripture: **Re 21:3, 4**

Offer: This issue of *The Watchtower* discusses how God will fulfill that promise and what it can mean for you.

THE WATCHTOWER (back page)

Question: Please notice this question. [Highlight the first question and possible answers appearing in the article on page 16.] What do you think?

Scripture: **Ps 83:18**

Offer: This article discusses further what the Bible says about God's name.

BIBLE TEACH

Question: Some people think that God controls the world. But did you know that the Bible doesn't really teach that?

Scripture: **1Jo 5:19**

Offer: This book presents a clear explanation of what the Bible really teaches on this topic and many others.

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

A couple studying together, using their tablet

- Song 63 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Praying for Others Pleases Jehovah":** (10 min.)

  Job 42:7, 8—Jehovah expected Job to pray for Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar (*w13* 6/15 21 ¶17; *w98* 5/1 30 ¶3-6)

  Job 42:10—Jehovah restored Job's health after he prayed for them (*w98* 5/1 31 ¶3)

  Job 42:10-17—Jehovah greatly blessed Job for his faith and endurance (*w94* 11/15 20 ¶19-20)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Job 38:4-7—Who are "the morning stars," and what do we know about them? (*bh* 97 ¶3)

  Job 42:3-5—What can we do to see God as Job did? (*w15* 10/15 8 ¶16-17)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Job 41:1-26

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play each sample presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Briefly refer to "Ways to Use *JW Library*" when discussing the use of a mobile device. Remind the audience to report each month the number of times they showed a video in the ministry. Encourage publishers to build their own presentation.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 60
- **"Are You Using *JW Library*?":** (15 min.) Begin with a five-minute discussion of the article. Then play and briefly discuss the video *Start Using "JW Library."* Afterward, do the same with the videos *Download and Manage Publications* and *Customize the Reading Experience.* Encourage all who can to install the *JW Library* app and download publications to their mobile device before the part "Ways to Use *JW Library*" is discussed during the week of May 16.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 14 ¶14-22, review on p. 124
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 77 and Prayer

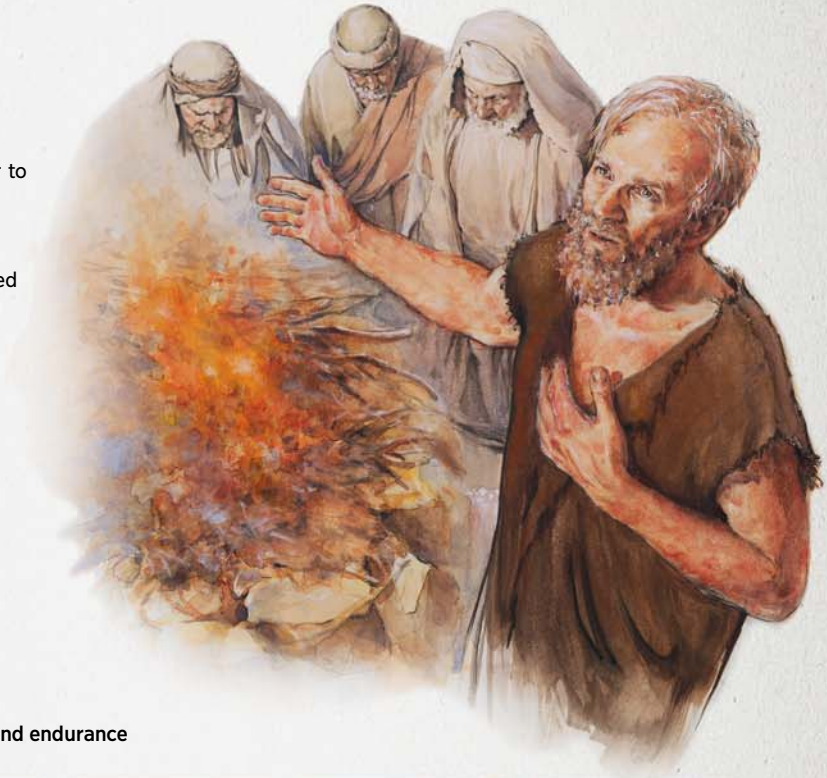
Are You Using *JW Library*?

JW Library is a free app (software application) that will allow you to download the Bible and other publications, videos, and audio programs to your phone, tablet, or computer.

HOW TO GET IT: Go online, and install *JW Library* from an app store. The app is available for various devices. While online, open the app and choose the items you wish to download to your device. If you cannot get online at home, perhaps you can do so at the Kingdom Hall, a public library, or a nearby coffee shop. Once publications are downloaded to your device, you do not need to connect to the Internet to access them. Because new features are regularly added to *JW Library,* you should go online from time to time and install app updates when they are available.

WHY GET IT? *JW Library* makes it very convenient to do personal study and follow along during congregation meetings. It is also useful for the ministry, especially when witnessing informally.

JOB 38-42 | Praying for Others Pleases Jehovah



42:7-10

Jehovah expected Job to pray for Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar

- Jehovah told Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar to go to Job and offer up a burnt sacrifice
- Job was expected to pray in their behalf
- After Job prayed for them, he was blessed

42:10-17

Jehovah greatly blessed Job for his faith and endurance

- Jehovah removed Job's tribulation, restoring him to good health

- Job received true comfort from friends and relatives for all that he had suffered

- Jehovah restored Job's prosperity, giving him twice the amount that he had lost

- Job and his wife came to have ten more children

- Job lived for another 140 years and enjoyed seeing four generations of his family line

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- Song 99 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Peace With Jehovah Requires That We Honor His Son, Jesus":** (10 min.)
  [Play the video *Introduction to Psalms*.]
  Ps 2:1-3—Hostility toward Jehovah and Jesus was prophesied (*w04* 7/15 16-17 ¶4-8; *it*-1 507; *it*-2 386 ¶3)
  Ps 2:8-12—Only those who honor Jehovah's anointed King will gain life (*w04* 8/1 5 ¶2-3)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Ps 2:7—What is "the decree of Jehovah"? (*w06* 5/15 17 ¶6)
  Ps 3:2—What is the meaning of *Selah?* (*w06* 5/15 18 ¶2)
  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?
  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 8:1–9:10

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *wp16.3* cover—Read a scripture from a mobile device.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *wp16.3* cover—Have the householder object to your use of the *New World Translation*, and then use *JW Library* to show the rendering in another translation.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 12 ¶12-13—Encourage the student to download *JW Library* to his mobile device.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 138
- ***Respect Jehovah's House:*** (5 min.) Discussion. Play the jw.org video *Become Jehovah's Friend—Respect Jehovah's House.* (Go to BIBLE TEACHINGS > CHILDREN.) Afterward, invite young children to the stage, and ask them questions about the video.
- **The Divine Name in the Hebrew Scriptures:** (10 min.) Talk based on appendix A4 of the revised *New World Translation.*
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 15 ¶1-14, box on p. 138
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 11 and Prayer

PSALMS 1-10 | Peace With Jehovah Requires That We Honor His Son, Jesus

2:1-3

Hostility toward Jehovah and Jesus was prophesied

- It was prophesied that the nations would not accept Jesus' authority but would insist on their own
- This prophecy had fulfillment during Jesus' time on earth and has a greater fulfillment today
- The psalmist says that the nations mutter an empty thing, meaning that their purpose is empty and doomed to failure

2:8-12

Only those who honor Jehovah's anointed King will gain life

- All who oppose the Messianic King will be destroyed
- By honoring the Son, Jesus, individuals can find safety and peace

- Song 106 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Who May Be a Guest in Jehovah's Tent?":** (10 min.)

  Ps 15:1, 2—We must speak the truth in our heart (*w03* 8/1 14 ¶18; *w89* 9/15 26 ¶7)

  Ps 15:3—We must be upright in our speech (*w89* 10/15 12 ¶10-11; *w89* 9/15 27 ¶2-3; *it*-2 779)

  Ps 15:4, 5—We must be loyal in all our conduct (*w06* 5/15 19 ¶2; *w89* 9/15 29-30; *it*-1 1211 ¶3)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 11:3—What is the meaning of this verse? (*w06* 5/15 18 ¶3; *w05* 5/15 32 ¶2)

  Ps 16:10—How was this prophecy fulfilled in Jesus Christ? (*w11* 8/15 16 ¶19; *w05* 5/1 14 ¶9)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 18:1-19

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

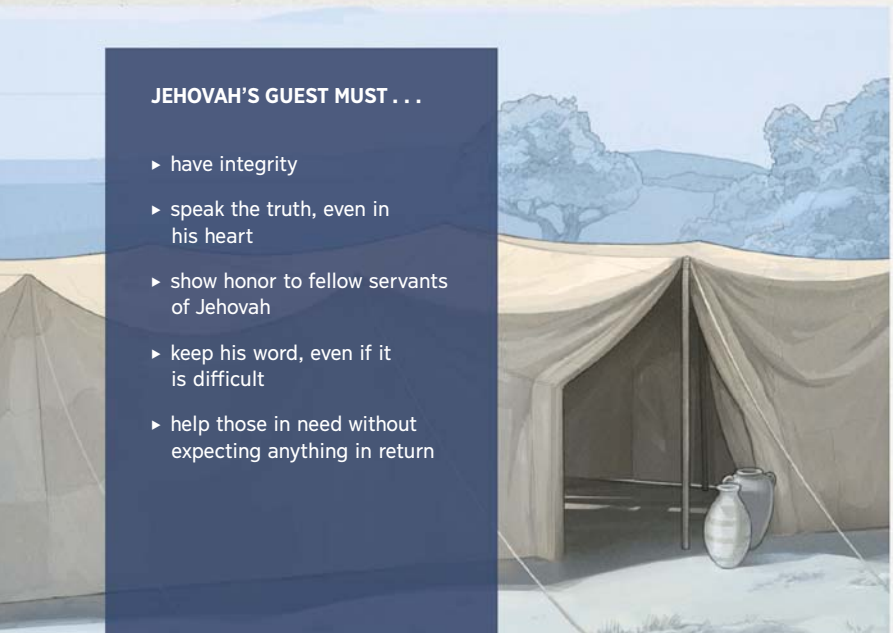
- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *wp16.3* 16—Read a scripture from a mobile device.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *wp16.3* 16—Read scriptures from *JW Library* so that the householder can see the rendering in his mother tongue.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 100-101 ¶10-11—Briefly show the student how he can use *JW Library* to research a question he raised.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 70
- **"Ways to Use *JW Library*"—Part 1:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play and briefly discuss the videos *Set and Manage Bookmarks* and *Use History.* Then discuss the first two subheadings of the article. Invite those in the audience to relate additional ways they have used *JW Library* for personal study and at congregation meetings.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 15 ¶15-26, review on p. 134
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 43 and Prayer

PSALMS 11-18 | Who May Be a Guest in Jehovah's Tent?

To be a guest in Jehovah's tent means that a person is a friend of God, one who trusts in him and obeys him. Psalm 15 describes what Jehovah looks for in a friend.



JEHOVAH'S GUEST MUST . . .

- have integrity
- speak the truth, even in his heart
- show honor to fellow servants of Jehovah
- keep his word, even if it is difficult
- help those in need without expecting anything in return

JEHOVAH'S GUEST AVOIDS . . .

- gossip and slander
- doing what is bad to his neighbor
- taking advantage of Christian brothers
- associating with those not serving or obeying Jehovah
- taking a bribe

- Song 116 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Prophecies Give Details About the Messiah":** (10 min.)

  Ps 22:1—The Messiah would seem forsaken by God (*w11* 8/15 15 ¶16)

  Ps 22:7, 8—The Messiah would be reviled (*w11* 8/15 15 ¶13)

  Ps 22:18—Lots were to be cast for the Messiah's clothing (*w11* 8/15 15 ¶14)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 19:14—What practical lesson can we learn from this verse? (*w06* 5/15 19 ¶8)

  Ps 23:1, 2—How is Jehovah a loving Shepherd? (*w02* 9/15 32 ¶1-2)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 25:1-22

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *bh*—Read a scripture from a mobile device.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *bh*—Use the search feature of *JW Library* to locate a Bible verse that answers a question raised by the householder.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 129-130 ¶11-12—Briefly show the student how he can use *JW Library* to prepare for the study using a mobile device.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 55
- **"Ways to Use *JW Library*"—Part 2:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play and briefly discuss the videos *Download and Manage Bibles* and *Search in a Bible or Publication.* Then discuss the last subheading of the article. Invite those in the audience to relate additional ways they have used *JW Library* in the ministry.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 16 ¶1-15
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 139 and Prayer

PSALMS 19-25 | Prophecies Give Details About the Messiah

SCRIPTURE	PROPHECY	FULFILLMENT
Psalm 22:1	**Seemingly forsaken by God**	Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34
Psalm 22:7, 8	**Mocked while on the stake**	Matthew 27:39-43
Psalm 22:16	**Nailed to a stake**	Matthew 27:31; Mark 15:25; John 20:25
Psalm 22:18	**Lots cast for his garments**	Matthew 27:35
Psalm 22:22	**Takes the lead in declaring Jehovah's name**	John 17:6

- Song 23 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Look to Jehovah for Courage":** (10 min.)

  Ps 27:1-3—Thinking about how Jehovah is our light will give us courage (*w12* 7/15 22-23 ¶3-6)

  Ps 27:4—Appreciation for true worship fortifies us (*w12* 7/15 24 ¶7)

  Ps 27:10—Jehovah is ready to support his servants when others desert them (*w12* 7/15 24 ¶9-10)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 26:6—How do we, like David, figuratively march around Jehovah's altar? (*w06* 5/15 19 ¶11)

  Ps 32:8—What is one benefit of receiving insight from Jehovah? (*w09* 6/1 5 ¶3)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 32:1–33:8

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *kt*—Read a scripture from a mobile device.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to offer a Bible study to someone on your magazine route by showing the video *What Happens at a Bible Study?* from *JW Library.*
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *jl* lesson 9—Briefly show the student how he can use *JW Library* to prepare for the meetings.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 130
- **Local needs:** (15 min.) As an option, discuss the lessons learned from the *Yearbook.* (*yb16* 112-113; 135-136)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 16 ¶16-29, box on p. 142, review on p. 144
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 16 and Prayer

PSALMS 26-33 | Look to Jehovah for Courage

27:1-3

Remembering Jehovah's saving acts gave David courage

- Jehovah saved young David from a lion
- Jehovah helped David kill a bear to protect the flock
- Jehovah supported David when he killed Goliath

27:4, 7, 11

What can help us to have courage like David?

- Prayer
- Preaching
- Attending meetings
- Personal study and family worship
- Encouraging others
- Remembering how Jehovah helped us in the past

Ways to Use *JW Library*

FOR STUDY:

- Read the Bible and the daily text
- Read the *Yearbook,* magazines, and other publications. Use the bookmark feature
- Prepare for congregation meetings, and highlight the answers
- Watch videos

AT MEETINGS:

- Look up scriptures referred to by the speaker. Use the history feature to return to a scripture
- Instead of bringing multiple printed publications to the meeting, use your device to follow the various parts and to sing the songs. *JW Library* has the new songs that are not yet in the printed songbook

IN THE MINISTRY:

- Show an interested person something from *JW Library,* and then help him download the app and publications to his own device
- Use the search feature to locate a Bible verse. If a phrase does not appear in the revised *New World Translation,* switch to the *Reference Bible* and search again
- Show a video. If the householder has children, you can play one of the *Become Jehovah's Friend* videos. Or you can show the video *Why Study the Bible?* to stimulate interest in a Bible study. If someone speaks another language, show a video in his language
- Show someone a scripture in another language, using a translation that you previously downloaded. Go to the scripture, tap the verse number, and then tap the parallel rendering icon

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

AWAKE!

Offer: This issue of *Awake!* discusses an intriguing topic. [Hand the householder a copy.]

Question: Did you know that Jehovah's Witnesses translate literature into over 750 languages?

Scripture: **Re 14:6**

AWAKE!

Question: Do you think that this principle could be of help when a married couple need to discuss a problem?

Scripture: **Jas 1:19**

Offer: [Point out the article that begins on page 10.] This article considers additional Bible principles along this line.

TRACTS

Question: Please note this question. [Read the multiple-choice question on the front of the tract.] What's your opinion?

Scripture: [Listed on page 2 of the tract]

Offer: This tract explains what that scripture can mean for you.

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 95 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Trust in Jehovah and Do Good":** (10 min.)

  Ps 37:1, 2—Maintain focus on serving Jehovah, not on the apparent success of wrongdoers (*w03* 12/1 9-10 ¶3-6)

  Ps 37:3-6—Trust in Jehovah, do good, and be blessed (*w03* 12/1 10-12 ¶7-15)

  Ps 37:7-11—Wait patiently on Jehovah to remove the wicked (*w03* 12/1 13 ¶16-20)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 34:18—How does Jehovah respond to those who are "brokenhearted" and "crushed in spirit"? (*w11* 6/1 19)

  Ps 34:20—How was this prophecy fulfilled in Jesus? (*w13* 12/15 21 ¶19)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 35:19–36:12

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play each sample presentation video, and discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to build their own presentation.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 93
- **"Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Using Videos to Teach":** (15 min.) Discussion. To illustrate the points under the subheading "How to Do It," use the jw.org video *Who Is the Author of the Bible?* (Look under PUBLICATIONS > BOOKS & BROCHURES. Then locate the *Good News* brochure. The video is found under the lesson entitled "Is the Good News Really From God?")
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 17 ¶1-13
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 61 and Prayer

IMPROVING OUR SKILLS IN THE MINISTRY

Using Videos to Teach

WHY IMPORTANT: Videos can touch the hearts of people by appealing to the senses of sight and hearing. This helps to hold attention and to make a lasting impression. Jehovah has set the best example of using visual aids to teach. —Ac 10:9-16; Re 1:1.

The videos *Does God Have a Name?*, *Who Is the Author of the Bible?*, and *How Can We Be Sure the Bible Is True?* supplement lessons 2 and 3 of the *Good News* brochure. The videos *Why Study the Bible?*, *What Happens at a Bible Study?*, and *What Happens at a Kingdom Hall?* encourage individuals to study the Bible with us or to attend congregation meetings. Some of our feature-length videos may also be used to teach on Bible studies.—*km* 5/13 3.

HOW TO DO IT:

- Download in advance the video you want to show the householder
- Prepare one or two questions that will be answered by the video
- Watch the video together
- Discuss the main points

TRY THIS:

- Turn to the back of one of our tracts, and direct attention to the code that links to the video *Why Study the Bible?*
- Show the video *How Can We Be Sure the Bible Is True?* and offer the *Good News* brochure, highlighting lesson 3

PSALMS 34-37 | Trust in Jehovah and Do Good

37:1, 2

"Do not be . . . envious of wrongdoers"

- Do not allow the temporary success of wicked people to distract you from serving Jehovah. Keep your focus on spiritual blessings and goals

37:3

"Trust in Jehovah and do what is good"

- Trust that Jehovah will support you through any doubt or anxiety. He will help you stay faithful
- Keep busy by sharing the good news of God's Kingdom

37:4

"Find exquisite delight in Jehovah"

- Schedule time to read God's Word and meditate on it with the goal of getting to know Jehovah better

37:5, 6

"Commit your way to Jehovah"

- Have complete trust that Jehovah will help you handle any problem
- Maintain good conduct in the face of opposition, persecution, or misrepresentation

37:7-9

"Keep silent before Jehovah and wait expectantly for him"

- Avoid rash acts that can rob you of joy and spiritual security

37:10, 11

"The meek will possess the earth"

- Seek meekness, and humbly wait on Jehovah to remove all the injustice you experience
- Support fellow believers, and comfort the depressed with the promise of God's new world, which is close at hand

The Messianic Kingdom will bring untold blessings

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- Song 4 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Sustains Those Who Are Ill":** (10 min.)

  Ps 41:1, 2—Happy are those who show consideration to lowly ones (*w15* 12/15 24 ¶7; *w91* 10/1 14 ¶6)

  Ps 41:3—Jehovah cares for upright ones who are sick (*w08* 9/15 5 ¶12-13)

  Ps 41:12—Hope for the future can help the sick to endure (*w15* 12/15 27 ¶18-19; *w08* 12/15 6 ¶15)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 39:1, 2—How must we guard our speech? (*w09* 5/15 4 ¶5; *w06* 5/15 20 ¶12)

  Ps 41:9—How did Jesus apply David's situation to himself? (*w11* 8/15 13 ¶5; *w08* 9/15 5 ¶11)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 42:6–43:5

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g16.3* cover
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g16.3* cover
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 2 ¶4-5 —Conclude by introducing the jw.org video *Does God Have a Name?*

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 128
- ***Keep Your Eyes on the Prize!:*** (15 min.) Discussion. Show the jw.org video *Become Jehovah's Friend —Keep Your Eyes on the Prize!* (Song 24). (Look under BIBLE TEACHINGS > CHILDREN.) Then discuss the corresponding activity "Compare: Life Now and in the Future," using the following questions: What changes will occur in Paradise? What blessings do you look forward to? How can meditating on your hope help you to endure?—2Co 4:18.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 17 ¶14-22, review on p. 152
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 36 and Prayer

PSALMS 38-44 | Jehovah Sustains Those Who Are Ill

41:1-4

Faithful servants can be confident of Jehovah's support during any adversity

- David became very ill
- David showed consideration to lowly ones
- David did not expect a miraculous recovery, but he looked to Jehovah for comfort, wisdom, and support
- Jehovah viewed David as a man of integrity

- Song 67 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Will Not Reject a Broken Heart":** (10 min.)

  Ps 51:1-4—David deeply regretted that he had sinned against Jehovah (*w93* 3/15 10-11 ¶9-13)

  Ps 51:7-9—David needed Jehovah's forgiveness to regain his joy (*w93* 3/15 12-13 ¶18-20)

  Ps 51:10-17—David knew that Jehovah would forgive a truly repentant person (*w15* 6/15 14 ¶6; *w93* 3/15 14-17 ¶4-16)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 45:4—What is the greatest truth that must be defended? (*w14* 2/15 5 ¶11)

  Ps 48:12, 13—What obligation do these verses place on us? (*w15* 7/15 9 ¶13)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 49:10–50:6

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g16.3* 10-11
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g16.3* 10-11
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 3 ¶1 —Conclude by introducing the jw.org video *Who Is the Author of the Bible?*

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 98
- ***"The Kingdom—100 Years and Counting":*** (15 min.) Questions and answers. Begin by playing the jw.org video *The Kingdom—100 Years and Counting* up to the section "An Education in One Day." (Look under PUBLICATIONS > VIDEOS.)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 18 ¶1-13
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 109 and Prayer

PSALMS 45-51 | Jehovah Will Not Reject a Broken Heart

Psalm 51 was written by David after the prophet Nathan called attention to David's grave sin with Bath-sheba. David's conscience struck him, and he humbly confessed.—2Sa 12:1-14.

51:3, 4, 8-12, 17

David had sinned but spiritual recovery was still possible

- Before he repented and confessed, his conscience made him miserable
- He suffered such agony over God's disapproval that he felt like a man whose bones were crushed
- He longed for forgiveness, spiritual recovery, and the joy that he had previously experienced
- He humbly begged Jehovah to help him develop a willingness to obey
- He was confident of Jehovah's forgiveness

- Song 38 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Throw Your Burden On Jehovah":** (10 min.)

  Ps 55:2, 4, 5, 16-18—David had moments of great anxiety in his life (*w06* 6/1 11 ¶3; *w96* 4/1 27 ¶2)

  Ps 55:12-14—David's son and a trusted friend conspired against David (*w96* 4/1 30 ¶1)

  Ps 55:22—David expressed confidence in Jehovah's help (*w06* 6/1 11 ¶4; *w99* 3/15 22-23)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 56:8—What does the expression "collect my tears in your skin bottle" mean? (*w09* 6/1 29 ¶1; *w08* 10/1 26 ¶3)

  Ps 59:1, 2—What does David's experience teach us about prayer? (*w08* 3/15 14 ¶13)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 52:1–53:6

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Offer one of the tracts. Direct attention to the code on the back page.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Demonstrate how to make a return visit on someone who accepted a tract.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 3 ¶2-3 —Conclude by introducing the jw.org video *How Can We Be Sure the Bible Is True?*

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 56
- **Local needs:** (7 min.)
- **"God Is My Helper":** (8 min.) Discussion. Obtain as many comments as possible for the questions listed so that all may benefit from the personal expressions of their brothers and sisters. (Ro 1:12) Encourage publishers to use the *Research Guide* to find help from God's Word when challenges arise.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 18 ¶14-21, review on p. 161
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 121 and Prayer

"God Is My Helper"

Psalms 52-59 express David's sentiments during several challenging periods of his life. Yet, he still trusted in Jehovah during those critical times. (Ps 54:4; 55:22) He also praised Jehovah for His word. (Ps 56:10) Are we developing the same kind of faith and trust in our God? Do we look to his Word for guidance when facing difficulties? (Pr 2:6) Which Bible verses helped you when you were . . .

discouraged or depressed?

ill?

offended by others?

persecuted?

PSALMS 52-59 | “Throw Your Burden on Jehovah”

David experienced many devastating trials during his life. By the time Psalm 55 was composed, he had suffered such things as . . .

Insults

Persecution

Severe Guilt

Family Tragedy

Sickness

Betrayal

55:22

Even when his burdens seemed unbearable, David found a way to cope with them. For any who might feel the same way, David gives this inspired advice: “Throw your burden on Jehovah.”

How can we apply this verse today?

1. Turn to Jehovah in heartfelt prayer with any problem, anxiety, or concern

2. Seek guidance and support from Jehovah’s Word and organization

3. Do what you reasonably can to relieve the situation in harmony with Bible principles

The Kingdom—100 Years and Counting

Those desiring to be citizens of God's Kingdom should learn all they can about the Kingdom and what it has accomplished. Why? This will not only strengthen their faith that God's Kingdom rules but also stir their hearts to tell others the good news of God's Kingdom. (Ps 45:1; 49:3) As you watch the video *The Kingdom—100 Years and Counting,* find answers to the following questions:

1. Why was the "Photo-Drama of Creation" a blessing to those who saw it?

2. How was radio used to reach people with the good news?

3. What other methods were used to preach the good news, and with what effect?

4. How has training for the ministry improved over the years?

5. What practical training was provided to students of Gilead School?

6. What role have conventions played in educating Jehovah's people?

7. What proves to you that God's Kingdom is ruling?

8. How do we show our support for God's Kingdom?

The book *God's Kingdom Rules!* will be considered during the Congregation Bible Study beginning the week of September 19, 2016

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

THE WATCHTOWER

Question: Would you not agree that if the Bible is from God, it should be able to survive any attempts to destroy it?

Scripture: **Isa 40:8**

Offer: This series of articles discusses the fascinating story of the Bible's survival.

THE WATCHTOWER (back page)

Question: I'd like to get your opinion on this question. [Read the first question on page 16.] Some believe that religion is a human invention. Others think that God uses religion to draw us to him. What do you think?

Scripture: **Jas 1:27, ftn.**

Offer: This article explains further what the Bible says on this topic. I'd be happy to come back and discuss some points from the article.

GOOD NEWS FROM GOD!

Question: Many feel that reading Bible prophecy is like reading the newspaper. Which of these foretold conditions have you seen or heard about?

Scripture: **2Ti 3:1-5**

Offer: This brochure explains why such conditions actually mean *good* news for those who love God. [Highlight lesson 1, question 2.]

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 104 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Praise Jehovah, the Hearer of Prayer":** (10 min.)

  Ps 61:1, 8—Make your promises to Jehovah a matter of prayer (*w99* 9/15 9 ¶1-4)

  Ps 62:8—Show trust in Jehovah by pouring your heart out to him in prayer (*w15* 4/15 25-26 ¶6-9)

  Ps 65:1, 2—Jehovah is the Hearer of prayer for all righthearted ones (*w15* 4/15 22 ¶13-14; *w10* 4/15 5 ¶10; *it*-2 668 ¶2)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 63:3—Why is Jehovah's loyal love better than life? (*w06* 6/1 11 ¶7)

  Ps 68:18—Who were the "gifts in the form of men"? (*w06* 6/1 10 ¶5)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 63:1–64:10

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play each sample presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to build their own presentation.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 81
- **"Keeping Our Life Simple Helps Us Praise God":** (15 min.) Begin with a discussion of the article. Then play and briefly discuss the JW Broadcasting video *We Live a Simple Life.* (Go to VIDEO ON DEMAND > FAMILY.) Encourage all to consider how to simplify their life in order to serve Jehovah more fully.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 19 ¶1-16
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 88 and Prayer

Keeping Our Life Simple Helps Us Praise God

Today, it is easy to complicate our lives with many things. Time and energy are required to shop for, pay for, use, maintain, and safeguard possessions. Jesus lived a simple life so that material possessions would not needlessly pull him away from his ministry. —Mt 8:20.

How could you simplify your life so that you can do more in the ministry? With some adjustments, could someone in your household join the pioneer ranks? Even if you are currently in full-time service, have you gradually allowed material things to complicate your life? A simple life in Jehovah's service is a happy, contented life.—1Ti 6:7-9.

WAYS THAT I CAN SIMPLIFY MY LIFE:

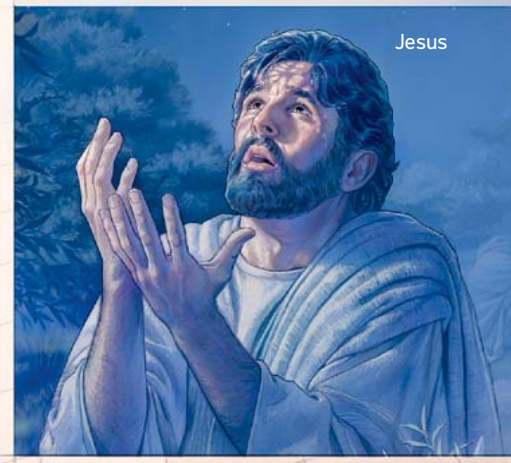
PSALMS 60-68 | Praise Jehovah, the Hearer of Prayer

61:1, 8

Make your promises to Jehovah a matter of prayer

- Praying about our promises will strengthen our resolve to keep them
- Our dedication to God is the most important promise we can make

Hannah



Jesus

62:8

Show trust in Jehovah by pouring your heart out to him in prayer

- A meaningful prayer includes our innermost feelings
- When our prayers are specific, we become more keenly aware of Jehovah's answers

65:1, 2

Jehovah is the Hearer of prayer for all righthearted ones

- Jehovah listens to "people of all sorts" who sincerely want to know him and want to do his will
- We can go to Jehovah in prayer at any time

Topics I want to include in my prayers:

Cornelius

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- Song 92 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah's People Are Zealous for True Worship":** (10 min.)

  Ps 69:9—Our zeal for true worship should be clearly evident (*w10* 12/15 7-11 ¶2-17)

  Ps 71:17, 18—Older ones can help younger ones to be zealous (*w14* 1/15 23-25 ¶4-10)

  Ps 72:3, 12, 14, 16-19—Our zeal moves us to tell others what the Kingdom will do for mankind (*w15* 10/1 16 ¶3; *w10* 8/15 32 ¶19-20)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 69:4, 21—How did these verses apply prophetically to the Messiah? (*w11* 8/15 11 ¶17; *w11* 8/15 15 ¶15)

  Ps 73:24—How does Jehovah lead his servants to glory? (*w13* 2/15 25-26 ¶3-4)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 73:1-28

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *wp16.4* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *wp16.4* cover
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 5 ¶3-4

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 140
- **"Could You Try It for One Year?":** (15 min.) Begin with a brief discussion of the article along with "Schedules for Regular Pioneering." Then play and discuss the JW Broadcasting video *Choosing a Career With Eternal Future.* (Go to VIDEO ON DEMAND > TEENAGERS.)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 19 ¶17-31, box on p. 170, review on p. 171
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 123 and Prayer

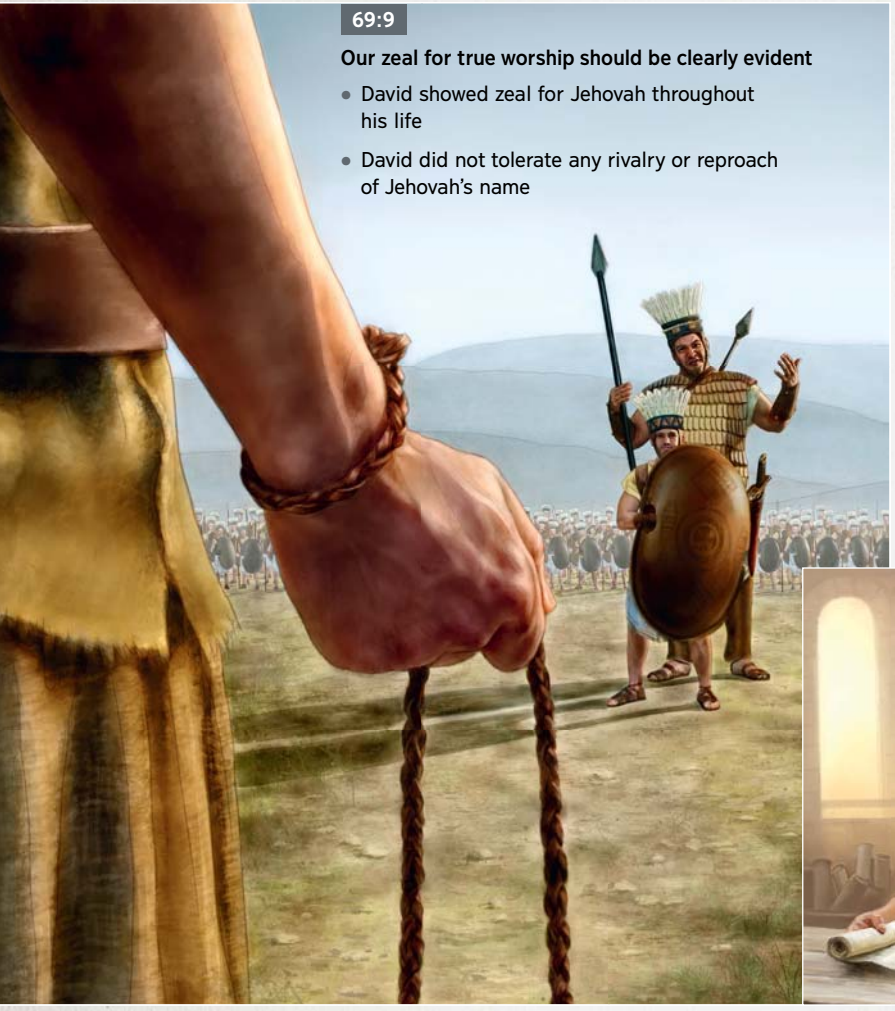
Could You Try It for One Year?

Try what? Regular pioneering! What rich blessings you will enjoy!—Pr 10:22.

BY PIONEERING, YOU CAN . . .

- gain skill as an evangelizer and enjoy the ministry more
- strengthen your relationship with Jehovah. The more you talk about him to others, the more you will be reminded of his awe-inspiring qualities
- experience the satisfaction that comes from putting Kingdom interests ahead of your own and the joy that results from giving of yourself in behalf of others. —Mt 6:33; Ac 20:35
- attend the pioneer meeting conducted during the visit of the circuit overseer, the special meeting in conjunction with the circuit assembly, and Pioneer Service School
- have more opportunities to start and conduct Bible studies
- spend more time with fellow preachers, enjoying an interchange of encouragement. —Ro 1:11, 12

PSALMS 69-73 | Jehovah's People Are Zealous for True Worship



69:9

Our zeal for true worship should be clearly evident

- David showed zeal for Jehovah throughout his life
- David did not tolerate any rivalry or reproach of Jehovah's name

71:17, 18

Older ones can help younger ones to be zealous

- The writer of this psalm, perhaps David, expressed a desire to encourage the next generation
- Parents and experienced Christians can train younger ones

72:3, 12, 14, 16-19

Our zeal moves us to tell others what the Kingdom will do for mankind

Verse 3—Everyone will have peace

Verse 12—The poor will be rescued

Verse 14—Violence will not exist

Verse 16—There will be plenty of food for everyone

- Song 110 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Remember the Works of Jehovah":** (10 min.)

  Ps 74:16; 77:6, 11, 12—Meditate on Jehovah's works (*w15* 8/15 10 ¶3-4; *w04* 3/1 19-20; *w03* 7/1 10 ¶6-7)

  Ps 75:4-7—Jehovah's works include appointing humble men to care for his congregation (*w06* 7/15 11 ¶2; *it-1* 1160 ¶7)

  Ps 78:11-17—Remember how Jehovah has acted in behalf of his people (*w04* 4/1 21-22)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 78:2—How did this verse apply prophetically to the Messiah? (*w11* 8/15 11 ¶14)

  Ps 78:40, 41—According to these verses, how can our actions affect Jehovah? (*w12* 11/1 14 ¶5; *w11* 7/1 10)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 78:1-21

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *wp16.4* 16—Mention the donation arrangement.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *wp16.4* 16
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 5 ¶6-7

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 15
- **Local needs:** (10 min.)
- ***"Jehovah . . . Created All Things":*** (5 min.) Discussion. Play the jw.org video. (Go to BIBLE TEACHINGS > CHILDREN.) Afterward, invite selected young children to the stage, and ask them questions about the video.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 20 ¶1-13
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 73 and Prayer

PSALMS 74-78 | Remember the Works of Jehovah

74:16; 77:6, 11, 12

Meditating on the good things that Jehovah has done is essential

- Meditation helps us to absorb what we read in God's Word and to develop heartfelt appreciation for spiritual food
- Thinking deeply about Jehovah helps us to remember his wonderful works and the hope he has set before us

74:16, 17; 75:6, 7; 78:11-17

Jehovah's works include the following:

- Creation—The more we learn about creation, the more our awe for Jehovah deepens
- Appointed men in the congregation—We should be submissive to those whom Jehovah appoints to take the lead
- Acts of salvation—Remembering Jehovah's saving acts strengthens our faith in his desire and ability to care for his servants

- Song 138 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Who Is the Most Important Person in Your Life?":** (10 min.)

  Ps 83:1-5—Our primary concern should be Jehovah's name and sovereignty (*w08* 10/15 13 ¶7-8)

  Ps 83:16—Our steadfastness and endurance bring honor to Jehovah (*w08* 10/15 15 ¶16)

  Ps 83:17, 18—Jehovah is the most important Person in the whole universe (*w11* 5/15 16 ¶1-2; *w08* 10/15 15-16 ¶17-18)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 79:9—What does this verse teach us about our prayers? (*w06* 7/15 12 ¶5)

  Ps 86:5—In what way is Jehovah "ready to forgive"? (*w06* 7/15 12 ¶9)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 85:8–86:17

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *fg* lesson 7 ¶1
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *fg* lesson 7 ¶3
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 7 ¶7-8

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 111
- ***Does God Have a Name?:*** (15 min.) Start by playing the jw.org video. (Look under PUBLICATIONS > BOOKS & BROCHURES. Then locate the *Good News* brochure. The video is found under the lesson entitled "Who Is God?") Then consider the following questions: How can this video be used when witnessing informally, publicly, and from house to house? What good experiences have you had using this video?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 20 ¶14-26, review on p. 179
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 143 and Prayer

  Reminder: Play the music through once, and then ask the congregation to sing the new song.

PSALMS 79-86 | Who Is the Most Important Person in Your Life?

The composer of Psalm 83 was likely a descendant of the Levite Asaph, a contemporary of King David. This psalm was written during a time when enemy nations were a threat to Jehovah's people.

83:1-5, 16

- In his prayer, the psalmist focused on Jehovah's name and sovereignty rather than on his personal safety
- Today, God's servants continue to face one attack after another. Our faithful endurance brings honor to Jehovah

83:18

- Jehovah wants us to know his name
- We must show through our actions that Jehovah is the most important Person in our life

Schedules for Regular Pioneering

Regular pioneering requires a good schedule. If you share in the ministry 18 hours a week, you can pioneer —and still have time for vacation! Such a schedule even allows for some unexpected disruptions, perhaps because of sickness or inclement weather. The accompanying chart offers ideas for publishers who work part-time or full-time or whose poor health or lack of energy limits them. With some adjustments, perhaps someone in the family can begin pioneering in September. Why not discuss this during your next family worship?

I WORK PART-TIME

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
WORK	WORK	WORK	**6 hours**	**6 hours**	**4 hours**	**2 hours**

I WORK FULL-TIME

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2 hours	**2 hours**	MIDWEEK MEETING	**2 hours**	**2 hours**	**6 hours**	**4 hours**

I HAVE HEALTH LIMITATIONS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
REST	**3 hours**	**3 hours**	**3 hours**	**3 hours**	**3 hours**	**3 hours**

MY SCHEDULE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

AWAKE!

Question: Do you think that it's worth the effort for people to replace bad habits with good ones?

Scripture: **Ec 7:8a**

Offer: These articles discuss Bible principles that show how people can harness their habits for their benefit.

AWAKE!

Question: Changes in life are unavoidable. What do you think is the best way to deal with them?

Scripture: **Ec 7:10**

Offer: [Point out the article that begins on page 10.] This article considers Bible principles that can help us to deal with change.

LISTEN TO GOD AND LIVE FOREVER

Question: All of us, including our family members and friends, have a name. So, what about God? What is his name?

Scripture: **Ps 83:18**

Offer: This brochure explains many other things that the Bible teaches us about God. [Highlight pages 6 and 7.]

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 49 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Remain in the Secret Place of the Most High":** (10 min.)

  Ps 91:1, 2—Jehovah's "secret place" offers spiritual security (*w10* 2/15 26-27 ¶10-11)

  Ps 91:3—Like a birdcatcher, Satan attempts to trap us (*w07* 10/1 26-30 ¶1-18)

  Ps 91:9-14—Jehovah is our refuge (*w10* 1/15 10-11 ¶13-14; *w01* 11/15 19-20 ¶13-19)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 89:34-37—Which covenant is referred to in these verses, and how did Jehovah illustrate its reliability? (*w14* 10/15 10 ¶14; *w07* 7/15 32 ¶3-4)

  Ps 90:10, 12—How do we "count our days so that we may acquire a heart of wisdom"? (*w06* 7/15 13 ¶4; *w01* 11/15 13 ¶19)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 90:1-17

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play each sample presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to build their own presentation.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 141
- **Local needs:** (5 min.)
- **"Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Helping Bible Students to Progress to Dedication and Baptism":** (10 min.) Discussion. Using the following questions, interview a publisher who helped someone to progress to dedication and baptism. How did you try to cultivate love for Jehovah in your student's heart? How did you help your student to reach spiritual goals?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 21 ¶1-12
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 137 and Prayer

IMPROVING OUR SKILLS IN THE MINISTRY

Helping Bible Students to Progress to Dedication and Baptism

WHY IMPORTANT: To gain Jehovah's approval, Bible students must dedicate their lives to him and get baptized. (1Pe 3:21) Spiritual protection then follows for those who live in harmony with their dedication. (Ps 91:1, 2) A Christian's dedication is to Jehovah—not to a human, a work, or an organization. Therefore, students need to develop love and appreciation for God.—Ro 14:7, 8.

HOW TO DO IT:

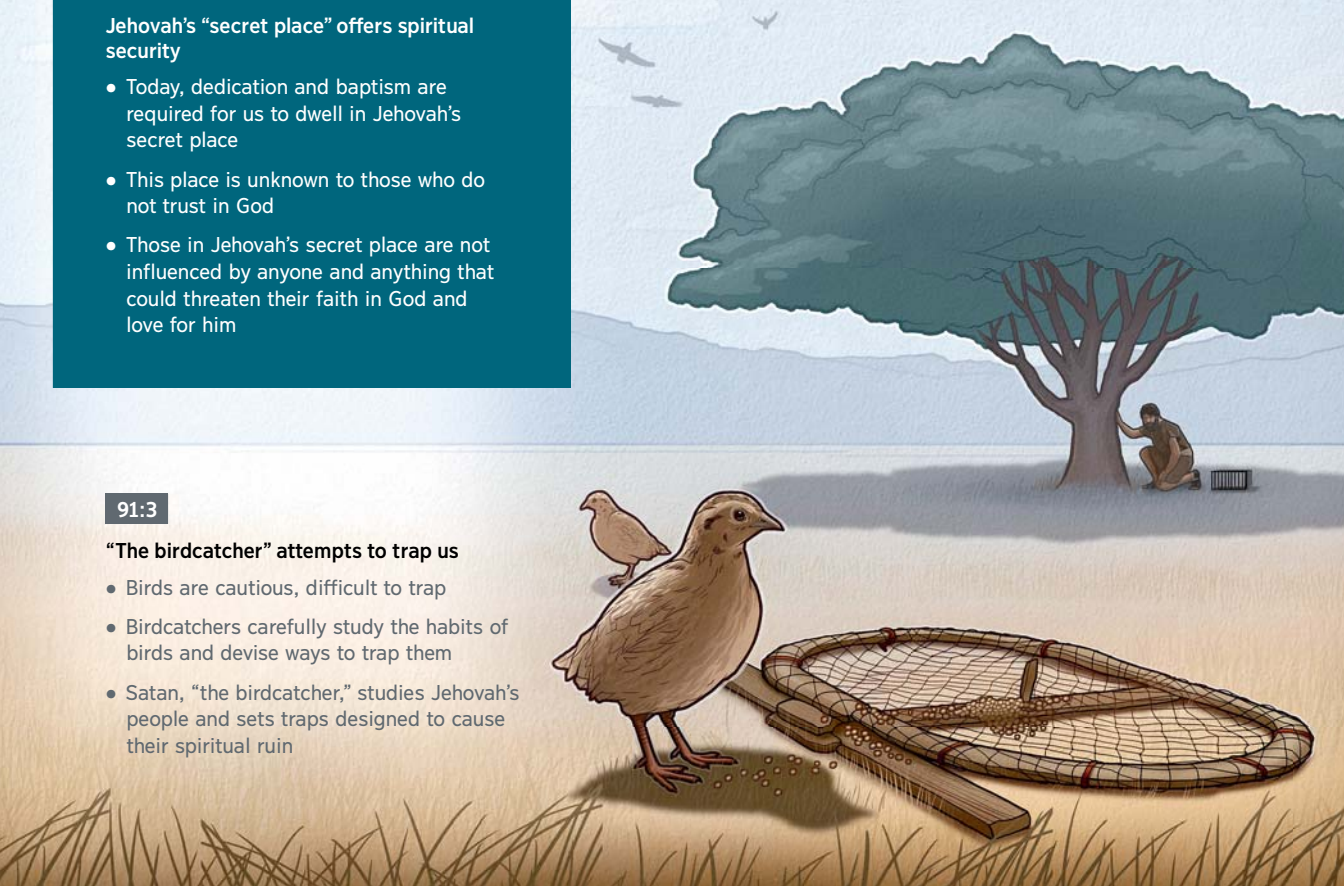
- During the study, discuss what the information reveals about Jehovah. Emphasize reading the Bible daily and praying to Jehovah "constantly." —1Th 5:17; Jas 4:8
- Encourage your student to set dedication and baptism as spiritual goals. Also, help him to reach intermediate goals, such as commenting at meetings or witnessing to neighbors and workmates. Remember that Jehovah does not coerce anyone to serve him. Dedication is a personal decision.—De 30:19, 20
- Motivate your student to make needed changes in order to please Jehovah and qualify for baptism. (Pr 27:11) Because certain traits and habits may be deeply ingrained, a Bible student may need ongoing assistance to put away the old personality and put on the new one. (Eph 4:22-24) Share with him articles from the *Watchtower* series "The Bible Changes Lives"
- Relate to him the joy that you have experienced in serving Jehovah. —Isa 48:17, 18

PSALMS 87-91 | Remain in the Secret Place of the Most High

91:1, 2, 9-14

Jehovah's "secret place" offers spiritual security

- Today, dedication and baptism are required for us to dwell in Jehovah's secret place
- This place is unknown to those who do not trust in God
- Those in Jehovah's secret place are not influenced by anyone and anything that could threaten their faith in God and love for him



91:3

"The birdcatcher" attempts to trap us

- Birds are cautious, difficult to trap
- Birdcatchers carefully study the habits of birds and devise ways to trap them
- Satan, "the birdcatcher," studies Jehovah's people and sets traps designed to cause their spiritual ruin

Four of the deadly traps used by Satan:

Fear of Man

Materialism

Unwholesome Entertainment

Personal Differences

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- Song 28 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Thriving Spiritually in Old Age":** (10 min.)

  Ps 92:12—The righteous bear spiritual fruit (*w07* 9/15 32; *w06* 7/15 13 ¶2)

  Ps 92:13, 14—Older ones can thrive spiritually despite physical limitations (*w14* 1/15 26 ¶17; *w04* 5/15 12 ¶9-10)

  Ps 92:15—Older ones can use their experience to encourage others (*w04* 5/15 12-14 ¶13-18)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 99:6, 7—Why are Moses, Aaron, and Samuel good examples? (*w15* 7/15 8 ¶5)

  Ps 101:2—What does it mean to "walk with integrity of heart" inside our house? (*w05* 11/1 24 ¶14)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 95:1–96:13

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g16.4* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g16.4* cover—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 161-162 ¶18-19 —Help the student to see how he can apply the material.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 90
- ***Older Ones—You Have an Important Role* (Ps 92:12-15):** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Older Ones—You Have an Important Role*. (Go to tv.jw.org, and look under VIDEO ON DEMAND > THE BIBLE.) Then ask the audience to comment on the practical lessons learned. Encourage older ones to share their wisdom and experience with younger ones. Encourage younger ones to seek out older ones when making important decisions in life.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 21 ¶13-22, review on p. 186
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 29 and Prayer

PSALMS 92-101 | Thriving Spiritually in Old Age

92:12

The date palm can live over 100 years and still produce fruit

92:13-15

Older ones bear spiritual fruit by . . .

- praying in behalf of others
- studying the Bible
- attending congregation meetings and participating in them
- sharing their experience with others
- preaching wholeheartedly

- Song 80 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Remembers That We Are Dust":** (10 min.)

  Ps 103:8-12—Jehovah mercifully forgives us when we repent (*w13* 6/15 20 ¶14; *w12* 7/15 16 ¶17)

  Ps 103:13, 14—Jehovah is fully aware of our limitations (*w15* 4/15 26 ¶8; *w13* 6/15 15 ¶16)

  Ps 103:19, 22—Appreciation for Jehovah's mercy and compassion should move us to support his sovereignty (*w10* 11/15 25 ¶5; *w07* 12/1 21 ¶1)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 102:12, 27—When we are distressed, how does focusing on our relationship with Jehovah help us? (*w14* 3/15 16 ¶19-21)

  Ps 103:13—Why does Jehovah not respond immediately to our every request? (*w15* 4/15 25 ¶7)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 105:24-45

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g16.4* 10-11—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g16.4* 10-11—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 164-166 ¶3-4—Help the student to see how he can apply the material.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 91
- **Never Forget All That Jehovah Has Done for You (Ps 103:1-5):** (15 min.) Discussion. Start by playing the jw.org video *I Got Fed Up With My Lifestyle.* (Look under ABOUT US > ACTIVITIES.) Then consider the following questions: What reasons do we have to praise Jehovah? What future blessings do we anticipate as a result of Jehovah's goodness?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 22 ¶1-13
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 131 and Prayer

PSALMS 102-105 | Jehovah Remembers That We Are Dust

David used figures of speech to illustrate Jehovah's mercy.

103:11

Just as we cannot completely grasp the distance between the starry heavens and the earth, we cannot comprehend the magnitude of Jehovah's loyal love

103:12

Jehovah puts our sins as far away from us as we can possibly imagine, as far off as the sunrise is from the sunset

103:13

Just as a father shows compassion to his son who may be hurt, Jehovah shows mercy to repentant ones who are crushed by their sins

- Song 2 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Give Thanks to Jehovah":** (10 min.)

  Ps 106:1-3—Jehovah deserves our thanks (*w15* 1/15 8 ¶1; *w02* 6/1 18 ¶19)

  Ps 106:7-14, 19-25, 35-39—The Israelites lost appreciation and became unfaithful (*w15* 1/15 8-9 ¶2-3; *w01* 6/15 13 ¶1-3)

  Ps 106:4, 5, 48—We have many reasons to thank Jehovah (*w11* 10/15 5 ¶7; *w03* 12/1 15-16 ¶3-6)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 109:8—Did God predestine Judas to betray Jesus in order to fulfill prophecy? (*w00* 12/15 24 ¶20; *it*-1 857-858)

  Ps 109:31—In what way does Jehovah "stand at the right hand of the poor"? (*w06* 9/1 14 ¶8)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 106:1-22

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *ll* 6—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *ll* 7—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 178-179 ¶14-16—Help the student to see how he can apply the material.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 94
- ***Jehovah Will Care for Our Needs* (Ps 107:9):** (15 min.) Discussion. Start by playing the video *Jehovah Will Care for Our Needs.* (Go to tv.jw.org, and look under VIDEO ON DEMAND > FAMILY.) Ask the audience to comment on the practical lessons learned.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 22 ¶14-24, review on p. 194
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 149 and Prayer

PSALMS 106-109 | "Give Thanks to Jehovah"

106:7, 13, 14

Why did the Israelites quickly forget Jehovah's saving acts?

- They shifted their focus from Jehovah to their immediate comforts and fleshly concerns

106:1-5

How can you cultivate a grateful heart and maintain it?

- Focus on the many reasons you have to be thankful
- Meditate on the hope for the future
- Thank Jehovah in prayer for specific blessings

- Song 61 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"With What Will I Repay Jehovah?":** (10 min.)

  Ps 116:3, 4, 8—Jehovah rescued the psalmist from death (*w87* 3/15 24 ¶5)

  Ps 116:12—The psalmist wanted to show his gratitude to Jehovah (*w09* 7/15 29 ¶4-5; *w98* 12/1 24 ¶3)

  Ps 116:13, 14, 17, 18—The psalmist was determined to fulfill all his obligations to Jehovah (*w10* 4/15 27, box)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 110:4—What is the "oath" referred to in this verse? (*w14* 10/15 11 ¶15-17; *w06* 9/1 14 ¶1)

  Ps 116:15—During a funeral talk, why should this verse not be applied to the deceased? (*w12* 5/15 22 ¶2)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 110:1–111:10

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *ll* 16—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *ll* 17—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 179-181 ¶17-19—Help the student to see how he can apply the material.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 82
- **"Teach the Truth":** (7 min.) Discussion.
- **"Special Campaign to Distribute *The Watchtower* in September":** (8 min.) Discussion. Play the first sample presentation for September, and then discuss the highlights. Generate enthusiasm for the campaign, and encourage auxiliary pioneering.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 23 ¶1-14
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 144 and Prayer

  Reminder: Play the music through once before singing.

PSALMS 110-118 | "With What Will I Repay Jehovah?"

The psalmist felt deep gratitude toward Jehovah because He had rescued him from "the ropes of death." (Ps 116:3) He was determined to show his gratitude to Jehovah by keeping all his promises and by fulfilling all his obligations to Him.

Why am I grateful to Jehovah this week?

How can I show my gratitude to Jehovah?

Teach the Truth

USE THIS NEW PRESENTATION WHEN . . .

- preaching from house to house
- witnessing informally
- starting a Bible study

Beginning in September, the *Life and Ministry Meeting Workbook* will include a new type of sample presentation entitled “Teach the Truth.” Our objective will be to highlight a basic Bible truth, using a question and a scripture.

If we discern interest, we can build anticipation for our next visit by leaving a publication or by showing a video from jw.org. We should try to return within a few days to build on the previous discussion. The new presentations and student assignments will be based on chapter summaries found in the book *What Can the Bible Teach Us?* There we can find additional questions and scriptures to help us make return visits or to conduct a study using only the Bible.

There is only one road leading to life. (Mt 7:13, 14) Since we speak to people of various religions and backgrounds, we must feature Bible truths that will appeal to them as individuals. (1Ti 2:4) As we become more conversant in various Bible topics and improve in our skill of “handling the word of the truth aright,” our joy will increase, and we will have success in teaching the truth to others.—2Ti 2:15.

Special Campaign to Distribute *The Watchtower* in September

People around the earth need comfort. (Ec 4:1) During the entire month of September, we will make a special effort to offer *The Watchtower,* which will feature the subject of comfort. Give this magazine wide distribution. However, because we desire to speak directly with people in order to comfort them, we will not leave the magazine at not-at-homes.

WHAT TO SAY

“We all need comfort at times. But where can we find it? [Read 2 Corinthians 1:3, 4.] This issue of *The Watchtower* considers how God provides such comfort.”

If the person shows interest and accepts the magazine, . . .

▸ **SHOW THE VIDEO *WHY STUDY THE BIBLE?***
Then offer a Bible study.

▸ **LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR A RETURN VISIT**
Pose a question that you will answer when you return, such as “Why does God permit suffering?”

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

THE WATCHTOWER

Question: We all need comfort at times. But where can we find it?

Scripture: **2Co 1:3, 4**

Offer: This issue of *The Watchtower* considers how God provides such comfort.

THE WATCHTOWER (back page)

Question: Some think that God's Kingdom is a condition in a person's heart; others think that it's the result of human efforts to bring world peace. What do you think?

Scripture: **Da 2:44**

Offer: According to the Bible, God's Kingdom is a real government. This article discusses further what the Bible says about God's Kingdom.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: How can we know if God cares about us?

Scripture: **1Pe 5:7**

Truth: God invites us to pray to him because he cares.

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

Preaching to a mother and daughter in the state of West Bengal in India

- Song 48 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Walk in the Law of Jehovah":** (10 min.)

  Ps 119:1-8—True happiness depends on our walking in God's law (*w05* 4/15 10 ¶3-4)

  Ps 119:33-40—God's Word gives us the needed courage to cope with life's trials (*w05* 4/15 12 ¶12)

  Ps 119:41-48—Accurate knowledge of God's Word gives us confidence to preach (*w05* 4/15 13 ¶13-14)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 119:71—What could be good about suffering affliction? (*w06* 9/1 14 ¶4)

  Ps 119:96—What is meant by "I have seen a limit to all perfection"? (*w06* 9/1 14 ¶5)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 119:73-93

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play each sample presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to build their own presentation.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 69
- **"If a Child Answers the Door":** (5 min.) Talk.
- **Local Needs:** (10 min.) As an option, discuss the lessons learned from the *Yearbook*. (*yb16* 59-62)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* chap. 23 ¶15-29 and the chapter review on p. 204
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 13 and Prayer

If a Child Answers the Door

If a child answers the door, we should ask to speak with his parents. This shows respect for their headship. (Pr 6:20) If the child invites us to come in, we should decline. If his parents are unavailable, we should return at another time.

If the child is older, perhaps in his mid-to-late teens, it would still be appropriate to ask for his parents. If they are not available, we might ask whether his parents let him choose his own reading material. If they do, we can offer him literature and perhaps direct him to jw.org.

When making a return visit on a youth who has shown interest, we should ask to meet his parents. This will allow us to explain our purpose in calling and show them the trustworthy and reliable advice found in the Bible for families. (Ps 119:86, 138) Our showing respect and consideration for the parents will be a good witness and may give us other opportunities to share the good news with the family.—1Pe 2:12.

PSALM 119 | "Walk in the Law of Jehovah"

To walk in the law of Jehovah means to submit ourselves willingly to divine guidance. We have many good examples in the Bible of those who, like the psalmist, followed Jehovah's law and relied on him.

Psalm 119 is written in an acrostic, or alphabetic, arrangement. This may have served as a memory aid. The psalm has 22 stanzas, each containing 8 verses. Each verse in a stanza begins with the same letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Since there are 22 letters in the Hebrew alphabet, the psalm has 176 verses, making it by far the longest psalm in the Bible.

119:1-8

True happiness depends on our walking in God's law

Joshua demonstrated full confidence in Jehovah's direction. He knew that to be happy and successful, he needed to trust in Jehovah with his whole heart

119:33-40

God's Word gives us the needed courage to cope with life's trials

Jeremiah showed courage and reliance on Jehovah amid difficult circumstances. He kept his life simple and persevered in his assignment

119:41-48

Accurate knowledge of God's Word gives us confidence to preach

Paul was not afraid to share God's message with anyone. He had full confidence in Jehovah's help when he boldly preached to Governor Felix

In what situations can I show more confidence when witnessing to others?

☐ School ☐ Family

☐ Work ☐ Other

_____

_____

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- Song 33 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"My Help Comes From Jehovah":** (10 min.)

  Ps 121:1, 2—Jehovah's creatorship is a basis for confidence (*w04* 12/15 12 ¶3)

  Ps 121:3, 4—Jehovah is alert to the needs of his servants (*w04* 12/15 12 ¶4)

  Ps 121:5-8—Jehovah is the loyal Protector of his people (*w04* 12/15 13 ¶5-7)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 123:2—What is the point of the illustration about "the eyes of servants"? (*w06* 9/1 15 ¶4)

  Ps 133:1-3—What is one of the lessons contained in this psalm? (*w06* 9/1 16 ¶3)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 127:1–129:8

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

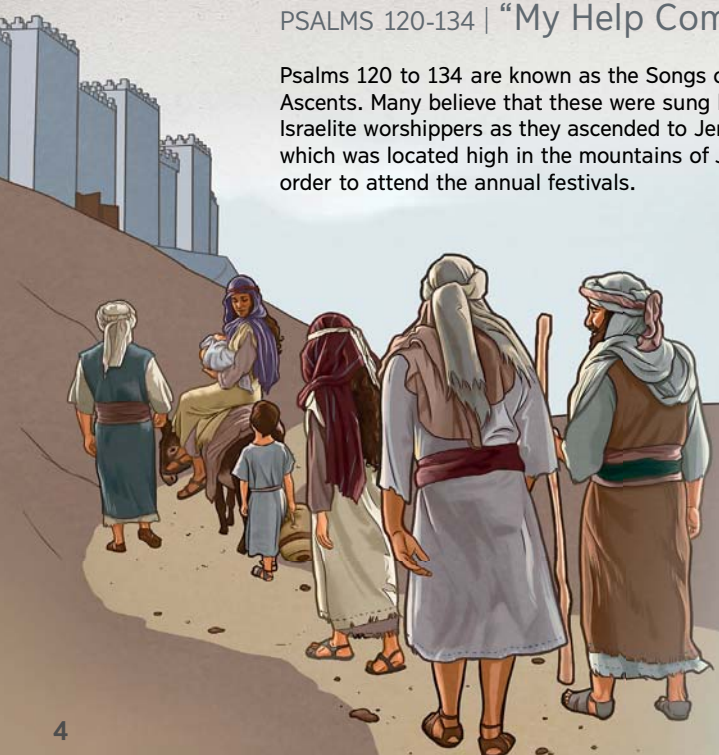
- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *wp16.5* cover—Respond to an irate householder.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *wp16.5* cover—Invite the person to the meeting.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 8 ¶6—Help the student to apply the material.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 114
- ***Jehovah Has Done So Much for Me:*** (15 min.) Play the jw.org video. (Go to ABOUT US > ACTIVITIES.) Discuss the following questions: How has Jehovah helped Crystal, and how has this motivated her? What does she do when she is overwhelmed with negative emotions? How has Crystal's experience helped you?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *ia* Conclusion ¶1-13
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 119 and Prayer

PSALMS 120-134 | "My Help Comes From Jehovah"

Psalms 120 to 134 are known as the Songs of the Ascents. Many believe that these were sung by joyful Israelite worshippers as they ascended to Jerusalem, which was located high in the mountains of Judah, in order to attend the annual festivals.



121:3-8

Jehovah's protection is described in word pictures such as . . .

a wide-awake shepherd

a shade from the sun

a loyal soldier

- Song 59 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"We Are Wonderfully Made":** (10 min.)

  Ps 139:14—Contemplating Jehovah's works strengthens our appreciation for him (*w07* 6/15 21 ¶1-4)

  Ps 139:15, 16—Our genes and cells highlight Jehovah's power and wisdom (*w07* 6/15 22-23 ¶7-11)

  Ps 139:17, 18—Humans are unique in the way they use language and thought (*w07* 6/15 23 ¶12-13; *w06* 9/1 16 ¶8)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 136:15—What insight into the Exodus account does this verse provide? (*it*-1 783 ¶5)

  Ps 141:5—What did King David acknowledge? (*w15* 4/15 31 ¶1)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 139:1-24

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *wp16.5* 16
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *wp16.5* 16—Invite the person to the meeting.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 8 ¶8—Help the student to apply the material.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 57
- **"Avoid These Pitfalls When Conducting a Bible Study":** (15 min.) After discussing the article, play and then discuss the two-part video that shows the incorrect and correct way to teach, using the *Bible Teach* book page 29, paragraph 7. Publishers should follow along in their own book. Remind those who receive student assignments that avoiding these pitfalls will often allow them to take less than the allotted time.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* A Letter From the Governing Body and chap. 1 ¶1-10
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 30 and Prayer

PSALMS 135-141 | We Are Wonderfully Made

David meditated on the evidence of God's good qualities reflected in His creation. He confidently used his life to serve Jehovah.

When David thought deeply about creation, he was moved to praise Jehovah:

139:14

- "I praise you because in an awe-inspiring way
  I am wonderfully made"

139:15

- "My bones were not hidden from you
  when I was made in secret,
  when I was woven in the depths of the earth"

139:16

- "Your eyes even saw me as an embryo;
  all its parts were written in your book"

- Song 134 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Is Great and Most Worthy of Praise":** (10 min.)

  Ps 145:1-9—Jehovah's greatness is without limits (*w04* 1/15 10 ¶3-4; 11 ¶7-8; 14 ¶20-21; 15 ¶2)

  Ps 145:10-13—Jehovah's loyal ones give him praise (*w04* 1/15 16 ¶3-6)

  Ps 145:14-16—Jehovah supports and sustains his loyal ones (*w04* 1/15 17-18 ¶10-14)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ps 143:8—How does this verse help us to live each day to God's glory? (*w10* 1/15 21 ¶1-2)

  Ps 150:6—What obligation does the last verse in the book of Psalms emphasize? (*it*-2 448)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ps 145:1-21

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) 1Pe 5:7—Teach the Truth.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Ps 37:9-11—Teach the Truth.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 9 ¶3—Help the student to apply the material.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 99
- **"Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Encouraging Interested Ones to Attend Meetings":** (15 min.) Discussion. Distribute a copy of the congregation meeting invitation, and briefly consider page 2. Show the video demonstration of a publisher inviting someone on his magazine route to the meeting. Conclude by discussing the box "October Offer: Congregation Meeting Invitation."
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 1 ¶11-20, charts on pp. 10, 12
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 145 and Prayer

  Reminder: Play the music through once before singing the new song.

PSALMS 142-150 | "Jehovah Is Great and Most Worthy of Praise"

145:1-5

In observing that Jehovah's greatness is without limits, David was motivated to praise Him forever

145:14

David was convinced of Jehovah's desire and ability to care for all of His servants

145:10-12

Like David, Jehovah's loyal servants are moved to make His mighty acts a regular part of their conversations

IMPROVING OUR SKILLS IN THE MINISTRY

Encouraging Interested Ones to Attend Meetings

WHY IMPORTANT: Meetings provide regular occasions to “sing to Jehovah” and to “praise him.” (Ps 149:1) At the meetings, we are taught to do God’s will. (Ps 143:10) Interested ones and Bible students usually make greater progress once they begin attending meetings.

HOW TO DO IT:

- Extend an invitation as soon as possible. You need not wait until a Bible study has been established.—Re 22:17
- Explain to the interested person what he can expect and what will be discussed at the next meeting. The following can be of help in this regard: the congregation meeting invitation, the video *What Happens at a Kingdom Hall?,* and lessons 5 and 7 of the *Jehovah’s Will* brochure
- Offer help. Does the interested one need a ride or assistance with choosing appropriate clothing? Sit next to him at the meeting, and share your publications. Introduce him to others

OCTOBER OFFER: CONGREGATION MEETING INVITATION

Some who attend our meetings for the first time have drawn the conclusion: “God is really among you.” (1Co 14:25) During the month of October, we will make a concerted effort to invite people to the weekend meeting. We will offer the congregation meeting invitation and, if the householder allows, play the video *What Happens at a Kingdom Hall?* A sample presentation will be viewed and discussed next week.

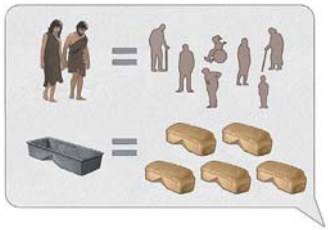
Avoid These Pitfalls When Conducting a Bible Study

DON'T

Talking Too Much: Do not feel that *you* must explain everything. Jesus used questions to help people think and arrive at the right conclusion. (Mt 17:24-27) Questions make the study lively and help you to determine what your student understands and believes. (*be* 253 ¶3-4) When asking a question, be patient and wait for the answer. If the student gives the wrong answer, instead of telling him the right answer, lead him to the correct conclusion by using additional questions. (*be* 238 ¶1-2) Talk at a pace that allows the student to grasp new ideas. —*be* 230 ¶4.

DO

Making It Complicated: Avoid the temptation to relate all that you know on the subject. (Joh 16:12) Focus on the main point of the paragraph. (*be* 226 ¶4-5) Details, even interesting ones, can obscure the main points. (*be* 235 ¶3) Once the main point is understood by the student, move on to the next paragraph.



Just Covering Material: Our objective is to reach the heart, not cover material. (Lu 24:32) Utilize the power of God's Word by focusing on the key scriptures in the lesson. (2Co 10:4; Heb 4:12; *be* 144 ¶1-3) Use simple illustrations. (*be* 245 ¶2-4) Consider the student's personal challenges and beliefs, and tailor the lesson to him. Ask questions like these: "How do you feel about what you are learning here?" "What does this teach us about Jehovah?" "What benefit do you see in applying such counsel?"—*be* 238 ¶3-5; 259 ¶1.

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

AWAKE!

Question: Some people doubt whether Jesus really existed, while others are convinced he did. Still others say there's no way to know for sure. What's your opinion?

Offer: This issue of *Awake!* considers what the evidence shows.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: What happens when we die?

Scripture: **Joh 11:11-14**

Truth: When a person dies, his life ends. So we do not need to fear an afterlife. Jesus compared death to sleep. Just as he did with Lazarus, Jesus will "wake up" our dead loved ones so that they can enjoy life on earth again.—Job 14:14.

CONGREGATION MEETING INVITATION (*inv*)

Offer: I'd like to invite you to a free Bible talk. It will be given at the local Kingdom Hall, our place of worship. [Offer the meeting invitation, point out the time and location of the weekend meeting, and mention the theme of the public talk.]

Question: Have you been to a Kingdom Hall before? [If appropriate, show the video *What Happens at a Kingdom Hall?*]

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 37 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Trust in Jehovah With All Your Heart":** (10 min.)
  [Play the video *Introduction to Proverbs*.]
  Pr 3:1-4—Show loyal love and faithfulness (*w00* 1/15 23-24)
  Pr 3:5-8—Cultivate complete trust in Jehovah (*w00* 1/15 24)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Pr 1:7, ftn.—In what way is the fear of Jehovah "the beginning of knowledge"? (*w06* 9/15 17 ¶1; *it*-2 180)
  Pr 6:1-5—What is the wise course if we become ensnared by an unwise business agreement? (*w00* 9/15 25-26)
  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?
  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Pr 6:20-35

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play each sample presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to participate fully in the global effort to invite people to the weekend meeting.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 107
- **Local Needs:** (8 min.) As an option, discuss the lessons learned from the *Yearbook*. (*yb16* 25-27)
- **Do Good to Those Who Attend Our Meetings (Pr 3:27):** (7 min.) Discussion. Play the video *What Happens at a Kingdom Hall?* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY). Then ask how we can contribute to a loving atmosphere at the Kingdom Hall, not just during the month of October but at all times.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 2 ¶1-12
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 143 and Prayer

PROVERBS 1-6 | "Trust in Jehovah With All Your Heart"

Jehovah is worthy of our complete trust. The meaning of his name builds our confidence in his ability to fulfill all of his promises. Prayer is an important part of building trust in him. Proverbs chapter 3 assures us that Jehovah will reward our trust in him by 'making our paths straight.'

3:5-7

One who is wise in his own eyes . . .

- makes decisions without asking for Jehovah's direction beforehand
- trusts in his own thinking or that of the world

One who trusts in Jehovah . . .

- cultivates a close relationship with him through Bible study, meditation, and prayer
- seeks his guidance by searching for Bible principles when making decisions

WHICH COLUMN DESCRIBES THE WAY I MAKE DECISIONS?

☐ **FIRST:** I choose what I think is the wisest course
SECOND: I ask Jehovah to bless my decision

☐ **FIRST:** I seek Jehovah's direction through prayer and personal study
SECOND: I choose a course that is in harmony with Bible principles

- Song 32 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Do Not Let Your Heart Turn Aside":** (10 min.)

  Pr 7:6-12—Those lacking good sense often run into spiritual danger (*w00* 11/15 29-30)

  Pr 7:13-23—Poor decisions can lead to disaster (*w00* 11/15 30-31)

  Pr 7:4, 5, 24-27—Wisdom and understanding will safeguard us (*w00* 11/15 29, 31)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Pr 9:7-9—What does our response to counsel reveal about us? (*w01* 5/15 29-30)

  Pr 10:22—What does Jehovah's blessing include in our day? (*w06* 5/15 26-30 ¶3-16)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Pr 8:22–9:6

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g16.5* cover
  —Invite the person to the weekend meeting.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g16.5* cover
  —Invite the person to the weekend meeting.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 176 ¶5-6
  —Invite the student to the meetings.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 83
- ***What Your Peers Say—Cell Phones* (Pr 10:19):** (15 min.) Discussion. Begin by playing the video *What Your Peers Say—Cell Phones* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY). Then discuss the accompanying jw.org article "What Should I Know About Texting?" Emphasize the points under the subheading "Texting Tips."
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.)
  kr chap. 2 ¶13-22
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 152 and Prayer
  Reminder: Play the new song through once before singing.

PROVERBS 7-11 | "Do Not Let Your Heart Turn Aside"

Jehovah's standards can protect us. To benefit from them, however, we must treasure them in our heart. (Pr 7:3) When a servant of Jehovah allows his heart to turn aside, he becomes vulnerable to Satan's smooth and deceptive tactics. Proverbs chapter 7 describes a young man who allowed his heart to deceive him. What can we learn from his mistakes?

- Satan tries to draw us away from Jehovah by using our five senses to induce us to get involved in wrongdoing
- Wisdom and understanding will help us to perceive the devastating effects of wrongdoing and to stay far away from spiritual danger

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- Song 69 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Wisdom Is Better Than Gold":** (10 min.)

  Pr 16:16, 17—A wise person studies and applies God's Word (*w07* 7/15 8)

  Pr 16:18, 19—A wise person rejects pride and haughtiness (*w07* 7/15 8-9)

  Pr 16:20-24—A wise person uses his speech to help others (*w07* 7/15 9-10)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Pr 15:15—How can we find greater joy in life? (*g* 11/13 16)

  Pr 16:4—In what sense has Jehovah made the wicked "work for his purpose"? (*w07* 5/15 18-19)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Pr 15:18–16:6

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Joh 11:11-14—Teach the Truth. Invite the person to the weekend meeting.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Ge 3:1-6; Ro 5:12—Teach the Truth. Invite the person to the weekend meeting.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 191 ¶18-19—Invite the student to the meetings.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 117
- **"How to Give Good Comments":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Become Jehovah's Friend—Prepare Your Comment* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY). Then invite selected children to the platform and ask them: What are the four steps to prepare a comment? Why can we be happy even when we are not called on to comment?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 2 ¶23-34
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 102 and Prayer

How to Give Good Comments

Good comments build up the congregation. (Ro 14:19) They also benefit those who give them. (Pr 15:23, 28) Therefore, we should try to give at least one comment at each meeting. Of course, we will not be called on every time we raise our hand. Therefore, it is best to prepare several comments.

A good comment . . .

- is simple, clear, and brief. In most cases, it can be given in 30 seconds or less
- is best given in your own words
- is not a needless repetition of a previous comment

If you are called on first, . . .

- give a simple, direct answer to the question

If the question has been answered, you could . . .

- show how a cited scripture bears on the point under consideration
- mention how the matter affects our lives
- explain how the information can be used
- briefly relate an experience that highlights a key point

PROVERBS 12-16 | Wisdom Is Better Than Gold

Why is godly wisdom so valuable? It delivers its owners from bad ways and preserves them alive. It has a positive effect on their disposition, speech, and actions.

16:18, 19

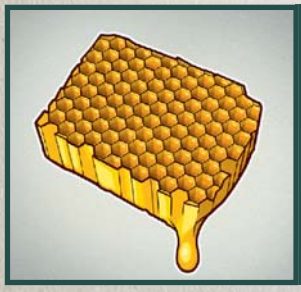
Wisdom protects from pride

- A wise person recognizes that Jehovah is the Source of all wisdom
- Those who achieve success or who receive more responsibility must especially guard against pride and haughtiness

16:21-24

Wisdom promotes wholesome speech

- A wise person uses insight to find the good in others and speaks well of them
- Wise words are persuasive and sweet like honey, not harsh or confrontational



DID YOU KNOW?

Honey is easily assimilated by the body and quickly converted into energy. It is valued for its sweetness and curative properties.

Pleasant sayings are spiritually refreshing, just as honey is good for the body.

- Song 76 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Pursue Peace With Others":** (10 min.)

  Pr 19:11—Remain calm if you are offended (*w14* 12/1 12-13)

  Pr 18:13, 17; 21:13—Make sure you have all the facts (*w11* 8/15 30 ¶11-14)

  Pr 17:9—Lovingly forgive the transgression (*w11* 8/15 31 ¶17)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Pr 17:5—What is one reason why we must choose our entertainment wisely? (*w10* 11/15 6 ¶17; *w10* 11/15 31 ¶15)

  Pr 20:25—How does this principle apply to courtship and marriage? (*w09* 5/15 15-16 ¶12-13)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Pr 18:14–19:10

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Offer congregation meeting invitation. (*inv*)
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *inv*—Conclude by introducing the video *What Happens at a Kingdom Hall?*
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 57 ¶14-15—Help the student see the need to improve in dress and grooming at meetings.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 77
- ***Making Peace Brings Blessings:*** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Making Peace Brings Blessings* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY). Then ask the following questions: What steps should we avoid when peace is disrupted? What blessings result when we apply Proverbs 17:9 and Matthew 5:23, 24?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 2 ¶35-40, box and charts on pp. 25-29
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 144 and Prayer

PROVERBS 17-21 | Pursue Peace With Others

Peace among Jehovah's people is no accident. When disagreements arise, emotions may be very strong, but counsel from God's Word is stronger still.

When facing difficulties, faithful Christians pursue peace by . . .

19:11

- remaining calm

18:13, 17

- making sure they have all the facts before responding

17:9

- lovingly forgiving the transgression

- Song 88 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Train a Boy in the Way He Should Go":** (10 min.)

  Pr 22:6; 23:24, 25—Godly training gives children the best opportunity to become happy, fulfilled, and responsible adults (*w08* 4/1 16; *w07* 6/1 31)

  Pr 22:15; 23:13, 14—Within the family, "the rod" symbolizes all forms of discipline (*w97* 10/15 32; *it-2* 818 ¶4)

  Pr 23:22—Adult children can benefit from their parents' wisdom (*w04* 6/15 14 ¶1-3; *w00* 6/15 21 ¶13)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Pr 24:16—How does this proverb encourage us to endure in the race for life? (*w13* 3/15 4-5 ¶5-8)

  Pr 24:27—How should we understand this proverb? (*w09* 10/15 12 ¶1)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Pr 22:1-21

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) JW.ORG contact card —Witness informally.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) JW.ORG contact card —Lay the groundwork for a return visit, and conclude by introducing the video *Why Study the Bible?*
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 179-181 ¶18-19

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 101
- **"Are You Making Good Use of JW.ORG Contact Cards?":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the sample presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to carry a few contact cards with them at all times.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 3 ¶1-12, pp. 30-31
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 146 and Prayer
  Reminder: Play the new song through once before singing.

PROVERBS 22-26 | "Train a Boy in the Way He Should Go"

Proverbs contains sound advice for parents. Just as bending young branches influences their growth, training children inclines them toward serving Jehovah when they grow up.

22:6

- Training children properly takes much time and effort
- Parents must set a good example, and they must carefully instruct, admonish, encourage, and discipline their children

22:15

- Discipline is loving training that corrects the mind and heart
- Children require different types of discipline

Are You Making Good Use of JW.ORG Contact Cards?

In view of the approaching great tribulation, our preaching work is urgent. (Pr 24:11, 12, 20) To help people, we can use contact cards to direct their attention to God's Word and to our website. The card contains a code that leads to the video *Why Study the Bible?* and an invitation to request more information or a Bible study. Some people are not inclined to accept literature but are willing to visit our website. Do not hesitate to give them a contact card. However, do not leave contact cards with those who show no interest.

As you go about your daily activities, you could generate someone's interest simply by saying: "I have something I would like to give you. This card directs you to a website that has free information and videos on a variety of subjects." (Joh 4:7) Because the contact cards are small, you can likely keep a few with you to share with others at every opportunity.

Learn more about the Bible
"Happy are those conscious of their spiritual need."
—MATTHEW 5:3
Would you welcome a free personal Bible study or more information?
www.jw.org
jwcdl-E
Printed in U.S.A.

OFFER A CONTACT CARD . . .

- when witnessing informally
- when witnessing in business territory
- when someone listens to our message but is not inclined to accept literature

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

THE WATCHTOWER

Question: If someone asked you what heaven is like, how would you answer?

Scripture: **Joh 8:23**

Offer: This issue of *The Watchtower* discusses what Jesus and his Father have revealed about heaven.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: Would you agree that this Bible prophecy describes what we see today?

Scripture: **2Ti 3:1-5**

Truth: Since the Bible's prophecy about the last days is being fulfilled now, we can also trust that the prophecy about a better future will be fulfilled.

WHY STUDY THE BIBLE? (Video)

Introduction: We're showing people a short video that explains where we can find satisfying answers to life's big questions. [Play the video.]

Offer: This book shows what the Bible says about how God will fix the world's problems. [Offer the *Bible Teach* or *Teach Us* book.]

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

Pioneers sharing the good news in the Tzotzil language in Chiapas, Mexico

- Song 86 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"The Bible Describes a Capable Wife":** (10 min.)

  Pr 31:10-12—She is trustworthy (*w15* 1/15 20 ¶10; *w00* 2/1 31 ¶2; *it*-2 1183)

  Pr 31:13-27—She is industrious (*w00* 2/1 31 ¶3-4)

  Pr 31:28-31—She is a spiritual person who is worthy of praise (*w15* 1/15 20 ¶8; *w00* 2/1 31 ¶5, 8)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Pr 27:12—How may we show ourselves to be shrewd regarding entertainment? (*w15* 7/1 8 ¶3)

  Pr 27:21—How is a person "tested by the praise he receives"? (*w11* 8/1 29 ¶2; *w06* 9/15 19 ¶12)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Pr 29:11–30:4

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to build their own presentation.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 89
- **"Her Husband Is Well-Known in the City Gates":** (5 min.) Talk by an elder.
- **Local Needs:** (10 min.) As an option, discuss the lessons learned from the *Yearbook*. (*yb16* 40-41)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 3 ¶13-22, chart on pp. 36-37, box on p. 38
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 108 and Prayer

"Her Husband Is Well-Known in the City Gates"

A capable wife reflects well on her husband. In King Lemuel's day, a husband who had a capable wife was "well-known in the city gates." (Pr 31:23) Today, respected men serve as elders and ministerial servants. If married, their ability to serve depends much on the good conduct and fine support of their wives. (1Ti 3:4, 11) Such capable wives are greatly appreciated, not just by their husbands but also by the congregation.

A capable wife helps her husband to serve by . . .

- encouraging him with kind words.—Pr 31:26
- sharing him willingly with the congregation.—1Th 2:7, 8
- living modestly.—1Ti 6:8
- not asking him about confidential congregation matters.—1Ti 2:11, 12; 1Pe 4:15

PROVERBS 27-31 | The Bible Describes a Capable Wife

Proverbs chapter 31 contains a weighty message to King Lemuel from his mother. Her wise counsel taught him what to look for in a capable wife.

31:10-12

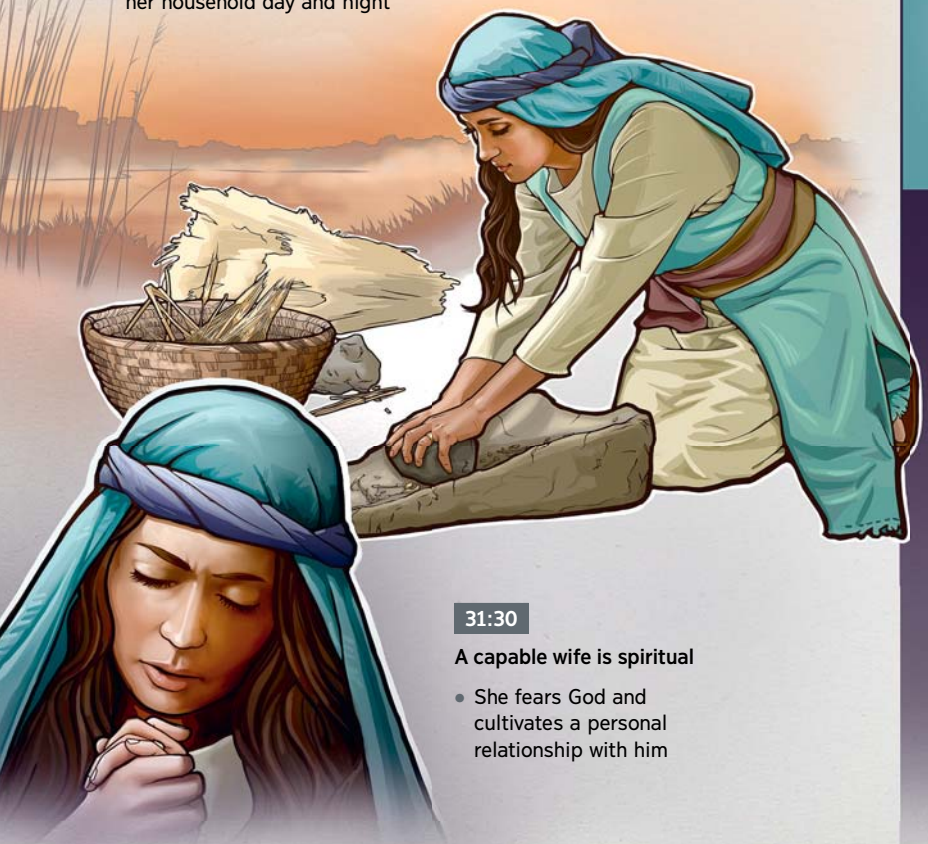
A capable wife is trustworthy

- She provides valuable suggestions concerning family decisions while remaining submissive
- Her husband trusts her to make wise decisions, not insisting that she obtain his approval for every matter

31:13-27

A capable wife is industrious

- She learns to be thrifty and live modestly so that her family can be neatly dressed, presentable, and well-nourished
- She works hard and watches over her household day and night



31:30

A capable wife is spiritual

- She fears God and cultivates a personal relationship with him

DID YOU KNOW?

Red coral was highly prized in Bible times. It was beautiful, rare, and difficult to obtain. Found in the Mediterranean and Red seas, it was an important trade item.

The Bible indicates the value of coral by referring to it in much the same way as it does to gold, silver, and sapphire.

God's Word says that the value of a capable wife is "far more than that of corals." —Pr 31:10.

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- Song 66 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Find Enjoyment in All Your Hard Work":** (10 min.)
  [Play the video *Introduction to Ecclesiastes.*]
  Ec 3:12, 13—The ability to enjoy hard work is a gift from God (*w15* 2/1 4-6)
  Ec 4:6—Cultivate a balanced view of work (*w15* 2/1 6 ¶3-5)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Ec 2:10, 11—What did Solomon discover regarding wealth? (*w08* 4/15 22 ¶9-10)
  Ec 3:16, 17—How should we view injustices in this world? (*w06* 11/1 14 ¶9)
  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?
  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ec 1:1-18

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *wp16.6* cover
  —Leave a JW.ORG contact card.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *wp16.6* cover
  —Read scriptures from a mobile device.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 22-23 ¶11-12
  —Invite the person to the meetings.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 140
- ***"What Can the Bible Teach Us?*—How to Use It":** (15 min.) Discussion. Afterward, play and discuss the video that shows a portion of a Bible study using Truth 4 on page 115 of the *Teach Us* book.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 4 ¶1-6, box on p. 43
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 112 and Prayer

ECCLESIASTES 1-6 | Find Enjoyment in All Your Hard Work

Jehovah wants us to enjoy our work and teaches us how to do so. A person can learn to enjoy work if he approaches it with the right attitude.

3:13; 4:6

You can find enjoyment in your work when you . . .

- cultivate a positive attitude
- think about how your work helps others
- do your best at work, but when you leave your job, you focus on your family and your worship

What Can the Bible Teach Us?—How to Use It

The *Teach Us* book and the *Bible Teach* book are similar. Both of these tools from our teaching toolbox present the same truths and in the same order. However, the *Teach Us* book uses simplified wording and logic. It is designed for those who may have difficulty understanding the *Bible Teach* book. Instead of an appendix, the *Teach Us* book has endnotes that provide simple explanations of some terms and concepts found in the main text. The chapters do not have introductory questions or a review box. Instead, they conclude with a summary of Bible truths that were explained in the main text. Just as with the *Bible Teach* book, the *Teach Us* book may be offered at any time, even if it is not being featured during the month. How may we use the unique features of the *Teach Us* book when conducting a Bible study?

115

TRUTH 3 WICKED ANGELS TRY TO HARM US

"We may not be overreached by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his designs."—2 Corinthians 2:11

Who are the demons, and why are they harmful?

Revelation 12:9
An angel rebelled against Jehovah. He is called Satan.

Genesis 6:2
In Noah's time, some angels rebelled and came to the earth.

Matthew 9:34
Those angels joined Satan's rebellion and became demons.

Deuteronomy 18:10, 11
The demons try to trick people and harm them any way they can.

TRUTH 4 YOU CAN RESIST SATAN AND THE DEMONS

"Oppose the Devil, and he will flee from you."
—James 4:7

How can you have Jehovah's help in resisting Satan and the demons?

Acts 19:19
Get rid of all items connected with demonism that make magic, demons, or the supernatural seem harmless or exciting.

Ephesians 6:16, 18
Build your faith by studying the Bible, and pray for God's protection.

Proverbs 18:10
Use Jehovah's name.

SUMMARY: For most people, our usual method of conducting a study by reading the paragraph in the *Bible Teach* book and then asking the question will serve quite well. Suppose, however, that the student is not very familiar with the language or does not read well. In that case, you may choose to use the *Teach Us* book. Then, the chapter summaries may be used as the basis for the study and the student may be encouraged to read the main text on his own. Each Bible truth can often be taught in a study session that lasts about 15 minutes. Since the summaries do not include details found in the main text, the teacher must prepare well, keeping in mind the needs of the student. If the teacher conducts the study from the main text, the summaries can be used as a review.

ENDNOTES 221

25 RESURRECTION

When God brings a person who has died back to life, it is called a resurrection. Nine resurrections are mentioned in the Bible. Elijah, Elisha, Jesus, Peter, and Paul all performed resurrections. These miracles were possible only because of God's power. Jehovah promises to resurrect "both the righteous and the unrighteous" to life on earth. (Acts 24:15) The Bible also mentions a resurrection to heaven. This takes place when those who are chosen, or anointed, by God are resurrected to live in heaven with Jesus.—John 5:28, 29; 11:25; Philippians 3:11; Revelation 20:5, 6.

▸ Chap. 9, par. 13

26 DEMONISM (SPIRITISM)

Demonism or spiritism is the bad practice of trying to communicate with spirits, either directly or through someone else, such as a witch doctor, a medium, or a psychic. People who practice spiritism do this because they believe the false teaching that spirits of humans survive death and become powerful ghosts. The demons also try to influence humans to disobey God. Astrology, divination, magic, witchcraft, superstitions, the occult, and the supernatural are also part of demonism. Many books, magazines, horoscopes, movies, posters, and even songs make the demons, magic, and the supernatural seem harmless or exciting. Many funeral customs, such as sacrifices for the dead, funeral celebrations, funeral anniversaries, widowhood rites, and some wake rituals, also include contact with the demons. People often use drugs when trying to use the power of the demons. —Galatians 5:20; Revelation 21:8.

▸ Chap. 10, par. 10; Chap. 16, par. 4

ENDNOTES: The terms and concepts in the endnotes are in the order that they appear in the main text. The teacher may decide whether to discuss the endnotes in the *Teach Us* book during the study.

- Song 41 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Remember . . . Your Grand Creator in the Days of Your Youth":** (10 min.)

  Ec 12:1—Youths should use their time and energy in God's service (*w14* 1/15 18 ¶3; 22 ¶1)

  Ec 12:2-7—Youths are not limited by "the days of distress" that come with old age (*w08* 11/15 23 ¶2; *w06* 11/1 16 ¶9)

  Ec 12:13, 14—Serving Jehovah is the best way to give your life meaning (*w11* 11/1 21 ¶1-6)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ec 10:1—How is it that "a little foolishness outweighs wisdom"? (*w06* 11/1 16 ¶5)

  Ec 11:1—What does it mean to "cast your bread on the waters"? (*w06* 11/1 16 ¶7)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ec 10:12–11:10

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) 2Ti 3:1-5
  —Teach the Truth.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Isa 44:27–45:2
  —Teach the Truth.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 25-26 ¶18-20
  —Invite the student to the meetings.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 95
- **"Youths—Do Not Delay Going Through the 'Large Door'":** (15 min.) Play the video *Young Ones—You Are Loved by Jehovah* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY), and then discuss the article.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 4 ¶7-15, boxes on pp. 44, 46
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 148 and Prayer
  Reminder: Play the music through once before singing the new song.

ECCLESIASTES 7-12 | "Remember . . . Your Grand Creator in the Days of Your Youth"

12:2-7

Solomon used poetic language to describe the challenges of old age

12:1, 13

Remember your Grand Creator by using your abilities to serve him while you are young

- Many youths have the health and vigor to tackle exciting and challenging assignments
- Youths should use their time and energy in God's service before old age limits them

Verse 3: "The ladies looking out the windows find it dark"

Diminished vision

Verse 4: "The daughters of song grow faint"

Diminished hearing

Verse 5: "The caper berry bursts"

Diminished appetite

Youths—Do Not Delay Going Through the “Large Door”

It can be easy to think that the days of our youth will continue indefinitely and that we will never experience “the days of distress” that accompany old age in Satan’s world. (Ec 12:1) If you are a youth, can you assume that you have plenty of time to pursue spiritual goals such as the full-time ministry? “Unexpected events overtake” us all, including those who are young. (Ec 9:11) “You do not know what your life will be like tomorrow.” (Jas 4:14) Therefore, do not put spiritual pursuits on hold unnecessarily. Go through the “large door that leads to activity” while it is still open to you. (1Co 16:9) You will not regret it.

Some possible spiritual goals:

- Preaching in another language
- Pioneer service
- Attending theocratic schools
- Construction service
- Bethel service
- Circuit work

MY GOALS:

- Song 106 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"The Shulammite Girl—An Example Worthy of Imitation":** (10 min.)

  [Play the video *Introduction to the Song of Solomon.*]

  Ca 2:7; 3:5—The Shulammite was determined to wait for the one she could truly love (*w15* 1/15 31 ¶11-13)

  Ca 4:12; 8:8-10—She remained loyal and chaste as she waited (*w15* 1/15 32 ¶14-16)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ca 2:1—What qualities added to the Shulammite's beauty? (*w15* 1/15 31 ¶13)

  Ca 8:6—Why is true love described as "the flame of Jah"? (*w15* 1/15 29 ¶3; *w06* 11/15 20 ¶7)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ca 2:1-17

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *bh*—Use the video *Why Study the Bible?* to introduce the book. (Note: Do not play the video during the demonstration.)
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *bh*—Invite the person to the meeting.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 29-31 ¶8-9

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 115
- **"Young People Ask—Am I Ready to Date?":** (9 min.) Talk based on the article "Young People Ask—Am I Ready to Date?" (Go to jw.org, and look under BIBLE TEACHINGS > TEENAGERS.)
- ***Is It Love or Infatuation?:*** (6 min.) Play and then discuss the whiteboard animation *Is It Love or Infatuation?* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 4 ¶16-23, box on p. 48
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 34 and Prayer

SONG OF SOLOMON 1-8 | The Shulammite Girl—An Example Worthy of Imitation

2:7; 4:12

What made her an outstanding example for worshippers of Jehovah?

- She wisely waited for true love
- She refused to have others pressure her into feeling romantic love for just anyone who came along
- She was humble, modest, and chaste
- She would not let her love be bought with gold or flattery

Ask yourself:

'Which quality of the Shulammite girl could I better imitate?'

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

AWAKE!

Question: Most people want to have good health. What do you think we can do to protect ourselves from getting sick?

Scripture: **Pr 22:3**

Offer: This issue of *Awake!* discusses steps that we can take to be shrewd and reduce the risk of disease.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: Is our suffering caused by God or by other factors?

Scripture: **Job 34:10**

Truth: God is never the cause of our suffering. Rather, suffering comes from the Devil, from humans who make bad choices, and sometimes from being in the wrong place at the wrong time. When we suffer, God is there to support us. He really cares about us.

WHY STUDY THE BIBLE? (Video)

Question: Do you think that God controls the world? [Allow for response.] What the Bible says may surprise you. This brief video explains. [Play the video.]

Offer: Chapter 11 of this book discusses why God has allowed suffering and what he intends to do about it. [Offer the *Bible Teach* or *Teach Us* book.]

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 107 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Let Us Go Up to the Mountain of Jehovah":** (10 min.)
  [Play the video *Introduction to Isaiah.*]
  Isa 2:2, 3—"The mountain of the house of Jehovah" represents pure worship (*ip-1* 38-41 ¶6-11; 44-45 ¶20-21)
  Isa 2:4—Worshippers of Jehovah do not learn war anymore (*ip-1* 46-47 ¶24-25)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Isa 1:8, 9—How was the daughter of Zion "left like a shelter in a vineyard"? (*w06* 12/1 8 ¶5)
  Isa 1:18—What is meant by Jehovah's words: "Let us set matters straight between us"? (*w06* 12/1 9 ¶1; *it-2* 761 ¶3)
  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?
  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 5:1-13

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to build their own presentation.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 139
- **Local Needs:** (7 min.) As an option, discuss the lessons learned from the *Yearbook.* (*yb16* 32 ¶3–34 ¶1)
- **"Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Reaching the Heart With *'Keep Yourselves in God's Love'*":** (8 min.) Discussion. Encourage those who have the Bible Study student assignments this month to apply the points found on pages 261-262 of the *Ministry School* book.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 5 ¶1-9
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 154 and Prayer
  Reminder: Play the new song through once before singing.

IMPROVING OUR SKILLS IN THE MINISTRY

Reaching the Heart With *"Keep Yourselves in God's Love"*

The *"God's Love"* book should be studied to completion. Even after the student's baptism, you may count the time, the return visits, and the study until the book is completed.

WHY IMPORTANT: People must learn Jehovah's standards and conform to them in order to worship him acceptably. (Isa 2:3, 4) The *"God's Love"* book, our second study publication, helps Bible students to discern how godly principles relate to daily life. (Heb 5:14) We must try to reach the heart when we teach them so that they may have the proper motivation to make changes.—Ro 6:17.

HOW TO DO IT:

- Prepare well, keeping the needs of your student in mind. Formulate viewpoint questions that will help you to draw out his thoughts and feelings about the material.—Pr 20:5; *be* 259
- Use the boxes throughout the book to help your student see the value of applying Bible principles
- Help your student to reason on matters of conscience, but do not make decisions for him.—Ga 6:5
- Tactfully determine if your student needs help to apply certain Bible principles. Kindly encourage him to make changes based on his love for Jehovah.—Pr 27:11; Joh 14:31

ISAIAH 1-5 | “Let Us Go Up to the Mountain of Jehovah”

2:2, 3

“In the final part of the days”

- The time in which we now live

“The mountain of the house of Jehovah”

- Jehovah’s elevated pure worship

“To it all the nations will stream”

- Those embracing pure worship gather in unity

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of Jehovah”

- True worshippers invite others to join them

“He will instruct us about his ways, and we will walk in his paths”

- By means of his Word, Jehovah instructs us and helps us to walk in his paths

2:4

“Nor will they learn war anymore”

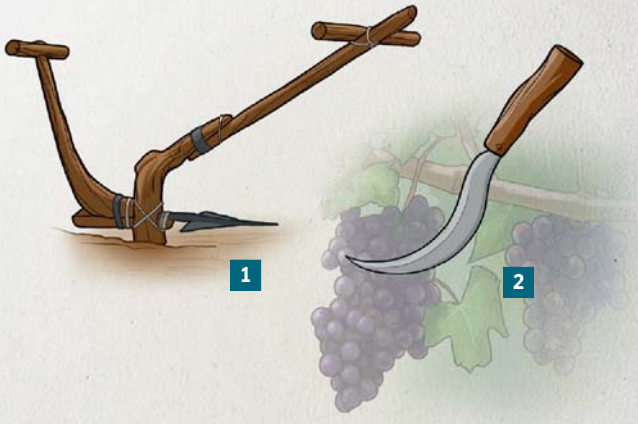
- Isaiah described a conversion of weapons of war into farming implements, indicating that Jehovah’s people would pursue peace. What were these tools in Isaiah’s day?

“Swords into plowshares”

1 A plowshare was the part of a plow that cut the surface of the soil. Some were made of metal.—1Sa 13:20

“Spears into pruning shears”

2 A pruning shear was perhaps a sickle-shaped metal blade fastened to a handle. This tool was used to prune vines.—Isa 18:5



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- Song 116 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"The Messiah Fulfilled Prophecy":** (10 min.)

  Isa 9:1, 2—His public ministry in Galilee was foretold (*w11* 8/15 10 ¶13; *ip-1* 124-126 ¶13-17)

  Isa 9:6—He would have many different roles (*w14* 2/15 12 ¶18; *w07* 5/15 6)

  Isa 9:7—His rulership will bring true peace and justice (*ip-1* 132 ¶28-29)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Isa 7:3, 4—Why did Jehovah extend salvation to wicked King Ahaz? (*w06* 12/1 9 ¶4)

  Isa 8:1-4—How was this prophecy fulfilled? (*it-1* 1219; *ip-1* 111-112 ¶23-24)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 7:1-17

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g16.6* cover
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g16.6* cover
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 34 ¶18 —Show how to reach the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 10
- **"Here I Am! Send Me!" (Isa 6:8):** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Moving to Serve Where the Need Is Greater* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 5 ¶10-17, box on p. 53
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 150 and Prayer
  Reminder: Play the new song through once before singing.

ISAIAH 6-10 | The Messiah Fulfilled Prophecy

Centuries before Jesus was born, Isaiah foretold that the Messiah would preach "in the region of the Jordan, Galilee of the nations." Jesus fulfilled this prophecy as he traveled throughout Galilee preaching and teaching the good news.—Isa 9:1, 2.

Performed his first miracle —Joh 2:1-11 (Cana)

Chose his apostles —Mr 3:13, 14 (near Capernaum)

Gave the Sermon on the Mount —Mt 5:1–7:27 (near Capernaum)

Resurrected a widow's only son —Lu 7:11-17 (Nain)

Appeared to some 500 disciples after his resurrection—1Co 15:6 (Galilee)

“Here I Am! Send Me!”

Isaiah’s willing spirit is worthy of imitation. He showed faith and immediately responded to a need, although not knowing all the details. (Isa 6:8) Can you adjust your circumstances in order to serve where there is a greater need for Kingdom proclaimers? (Ps 110:3) Of course, it is necessary to “calculate the expense” of such a move. (Lu 14:27, 28) Be willing, however, to make sacrifices for the sake of the preaching work. (Mt 8:20; Mr 10:28-30) As highlighted in the video *Moving to Serve Where the Need Is Greater,* the blessings we receive in Jehovah’s service far surpass any sacrifices we make.

AFTER WATCHING THE VIDEO, ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- What personal sacrifices did members of the Williams family make in order to serve in Ecuador?

- What factors did they consider when choosing where to serve?

- What blessings did they receive?

- Where can you find more information about serving where the need is greater?

DURING YOUR NEXT FAMILY WORSHIP, DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- How can we expand our ministry as a family? (*km* 8/11 4-6)

- If we are unable to serve where the need is greater, in what ways can we help our local congregation? (*w16.03* 23-25)

- Song 143 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"The Knowledge of Jehovah Will Fill the Earth":** (10 min.)

  Isa 11:3-5—Righteousness will prevail forever (*ip-1* 160-161 ¶9-11)

  Isa 11:6-8—Peace will exist between humans and animals (*w12* 9/15 9-10 ¶8-9)

  Isa 11:9—All mankind will learn Jehovah's ways (*w16.06* 8 ¶9; *w13* 6/1 7)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Isa 11:1, 10—How can Jesus Christ be "the root of Jesse" as well as a twig that grew "out of the stump of Jesse"? (*w06* 12/1 9 ¶6)

  Isa 13:17—In what sense did the Medes regard silver as nothing and take no delight in gold? (*w06* 12/1 10 ¶10)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 13:17–14:8

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Job 34:10 —Teach the Truth.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Ec 8:9; 1Jo 5:19 —Teach the Truth.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 54 ¶9 —Show how to reach the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 24
- **"Divine Education Conquers Prejudice":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Johny and Gideon: Once Enemies, Now Brothers* (video category INTERVIEWS AND EXPERIENCES).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 5 ¶18-25, box on p. 57
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 151 and Prayer
  Reminder: Play the new song through once before singing.

Divine Education Conquers Prejudice

Jehovah is not partial. (Ac 10:34, 35) He accepts people "out of all nations and tribes and peoples and tongues." (Re 7:9) Thus, there is no place in the Christian congregation for prejudice or favoritism. (Jas 2: 1-4) Thanks to divine education, we enjoy a spiritual paradise in which we have seen the transformation of human personalities. (Isa 11:6-9) As we work diligently to root out of our heart any traces of prejudice, we prove ourselves imitators of God.—Eph 5:1, 2.

WATCH THE VIDEO *JOHNY AND GIDEON: ONCE ENEMIES, NOW BROTHERS*. THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- Why is divine education superior to human efforts in eliminating discrimination and prejudice?
- What impresses you about our international brotherhood?
- How is Jehovah glorified when we maintain Christian unity?

ISAIAH 11-16 | The Knowledge of Jehovah Will Fill the Earth

11:6-9

How this prophecy applied to the Israelites

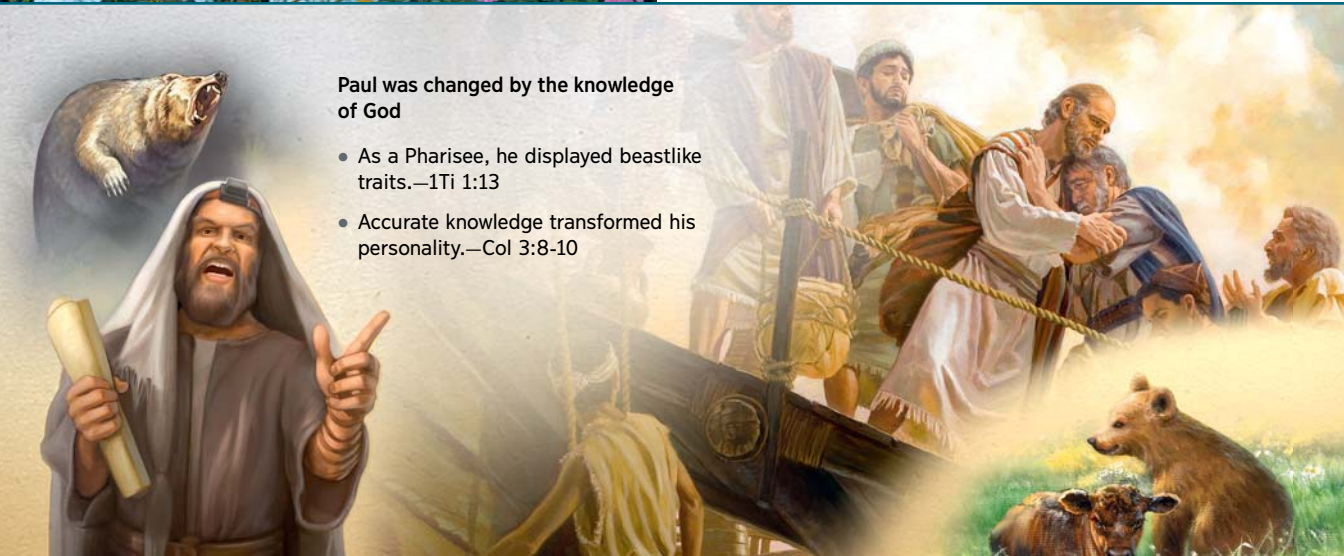
- Neither on the way home from their exile in Babylon nor in their restored land did the Israelites need to fear wild beasts or beastlike men.—Ezr 8:21, 22

How this prophecy applies to our day

- Knowledge of Jehovah has changed personalities. Formerly violent people have become peaceable. Knowledge of God has created a global spiritual paradise

How this prophecy will be fulfilled in the future

- The whole earth will be transformed into a secure, peaceful paradise, according to God's original purpose. No creature, whether human or animal, will pose any threat



Paul was changed by the knowledge of God

- As a Pharisee, he displayed beastlike traits.—1Ti 1:13
- Accurate knowledge transformed his personality.—Col 3:8-10

- Song 123 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Abuse of Power Leads to Loss of Authority":** (10 min.)

  Isa 22:15, 16—Shebna used his authority in a selfish way (*ip-1* 238 ¶16-17)

  Isa 22:17-22—Jehovah replaced Shebna with Eliakim (*ip-1* 238-239 ¶17-18)

  Isa 22:23-25—Shebna's experience teaches us valuable lessons (*w07* 1/15 8 ¶6; *ip-1* 240-241 ¶19-20)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Isa 21:1—What region was called "the wilderness of the sea," and why? (*w06* 12/1 11 ¶2)

  Isa 23:17, 18—How did Tyre's material profit become "holy to Jehovah"? (*ip-1* 253-254 ¶22-24)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 17:1-14

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *bh*—Use the video *Why Study the Bible?* to introduce the book. (Note: Do not play the video during the demonstration.)
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *bh*—Start a doorstep Bible study, and lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 150-151 ¶10-11—Show how to reach the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 44
- **Will You "Keep on the Watch"?:** (8 min.) Talk by an elder based on the March 15, 2015, *Watchtower,* pages 12-16. Encourage all to keep on the watch, just as did Isaiah's visionary watchman and the five virgins of Jesus' illustration.—Isa 21:8; Mt 25:1-13.
- **Organizational Accomplishments:** (7 min.) Play the *Organizational Accomplishments* video for December.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 6 ¶1-7, pp. 58-59
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 141 and Prayer

ISAIAH 17-23 | Abuse of Power Leads to Loss of Authority

Shebna was the steward "in charge of the house," likely the house of King Hezekiah. His position was second only to the king, and much was expected of him.

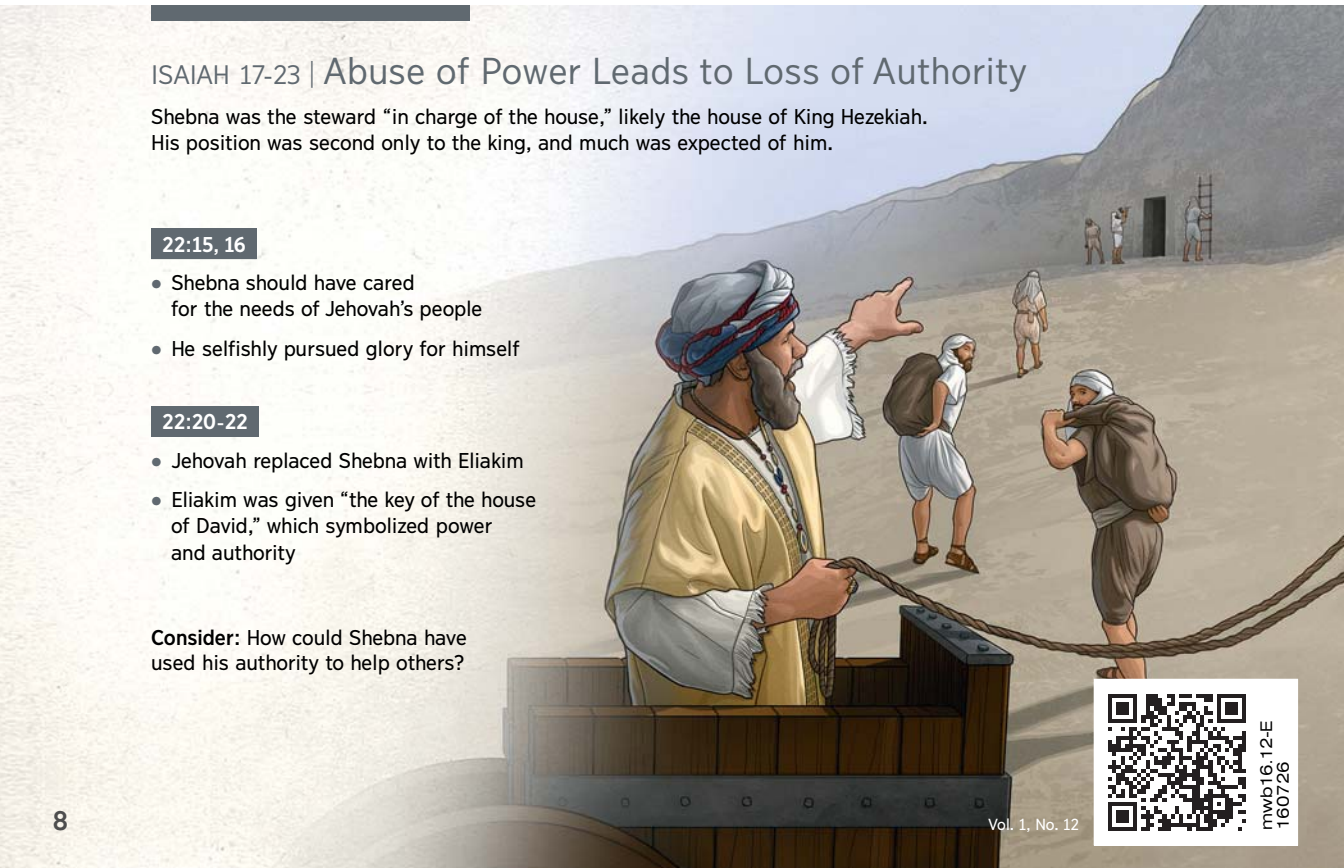
22:15, 16

- Shebna should have cared for the needs of Jehovah's people
- He selfishly pursued glory for himself

22:20-22

- Jehovah replaced Shebna with Eliakim
- Eliakim was given "the key of the house of David," which symbolized power and authority

Consider: How could Shebna have used his authority to help others?



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